



# The Fly-By

A Quarterly Publication of the  
**Southwest Region**  
July, 2017



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**The Fly-By** is published quarterly on the first month of each quarter. Deadline for submissions are:

1Q – 20 December

2Q – 20 March

3Q – 20 June

4Q – 20 September

**Text** may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred) or as a document attached to an e-mail (a .txt or Word .doc/docx, or, if written in another word processor, saved as an .RTF).

**Images** in JPG format, un-retouched, un-cropped, and at least 1200 x 900 pixels, sent as attachments, never embedded in the document.

**Credits:** In all cases, please give full grade, name and unit of assignment of

- The article's author,
- Photographer, and
- Anyone in the article or appearing in photos.

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Send submissions to the Editor at:

[awoodgate@austin.rr.com](mailto:awoodgate@austin.rr.com)

Message size limit: 20 MB

## **SWR Commander's Corner**

The time has come, sadly, for me to bid farewell as your region commander. As you probably know, CAP's Board of Governors selected me to become the next Chief Executive Officer and CAP's 24th National Commander. This becomes effective on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017, at the national conference in San Antonio. It has been truly an honor to serve as your region commander, and I am proud of the great things you have accomplished over the past two years.

You have lived our vision statement, "Southwest Region – Leading the way to mission success!" People around CAP are turning to this region to learn how to do the job at a high level of excellence. And the high standards of excellence that you have achieved covers a broad waterfront, from outstanding performance in operations evaluations, to peerless performance in real-world contingencies, to superb representation of CAP and the Air Force in local communities, to getting the job done in your local unit. Well done! You continue to excel in your service to community, state, and nation.

I would like to leave you with two thoughts: embrace and model the core values, and continually strive to be a professional in your service as a CAP volunteer. Let me share with you what I presented to the Board of Governors on these two important topics.

**Live the Core Values.** Civil Air Patrol's core values comprise the ethical fabric that holds our organization together. Our high standard of ethics sets us apart from other organizations and garners trust from those with whom we interact, whether locally or at the national level. Every member of Civil Air Patrol must embrace our core values and put them to practice continuously.

- **Integrity** is foundational to our organization's ethical framework, and all other aspects of our core values come from this most important attribute. We are called to do the right thing – always – regardless of the circumstances.
- **Volunteer Service** is what we do. We voluntarily give of ourselves, our time, and our resources in service to community, state, and nation. In Civil Air Patrol, it is not all about us. Rather, our focus is on others and how we can make a positive difference in people's lives.

- We are called to **Excellence** in all we do. We will continually strive to exceed expectations. When we fall short of where we aimed we will learn and apply lessons in order to continuously improve in all aspects of our enterprise.
- **Respect** is the central characteristic we employ to ensure we are successful as an organization. We all come from different backgrounds, yet every member of Civil Air Patrol is valued. We treat one another with fairness and dignity and work together as a team.

**Professionalism.** Each one of us is an ambassador, not only of Civil Air Patrol, but of the United States Air Force. As members of the Air Force's Total Force, we owe it to our parent Service and many other stakeholders to operate with the highest degree of professionalism. There are five pillars of professionalism in Civil Air Patrol.

1. **Safety.** We all must practice sound risk management to help safeguard our people and resources and achieve mission success.
2. **Professionalism.** Given that our flying mission is high-profile, our members must embrace and consistently exercise aircrew professionalism.
3. **Training.** We are in a position to exceed our stakeholders' expectations when we are highly trained and proficient. We seek self-improvement by participating in professional development courses, technical training, and the cadet program.
4. **Competence.** There is a direct correlation between the competence of our leaders and the success of our units and enterprise. We will work to continuously enhance the training and education offered to our leaders at all echelons.
5. **Compliance.** It is imperative to our performance as an enterprise that we operate in accordance with our directives.

I would like to thank you for my having had the privilege and honor of serving as your region commander. Southwest Region will continue to be a big part of my identity, and I look forward to seeing the great things you will accomplish in the future.

**Col. Mark Smith, CAP**

*Southwest Region Commander* 

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#### ***How to Submit News Items for this Newsletter***

##### **▪ Which Articles Are Best?**

Ideally, articles should deal with a wing-wide event, preferably conducted in conjunction or coordinated with another wing (or better yet across regions).

Individual articles dealing with a subject that is of interest to a broad audience qualify as well.

Articles bylined by cadets, especially when the subject is of interest to a broad audience, are also welcome.

##### **▪ Do I Submit Photos?**

Articles with no photos may not be selected for publication. Do not embed images in a Word document. Instead, send in the original, un-retouched, full-size digital photos as attachments.

##### **▪ If You Have Article Ideas or Suggestions**

If you have an article in mind but are not sure whether it would be acceptable, you need some guidance in writing it, or you would like to comment on the material published here, please feel free to contact the editor: [awoodgate@austin.rr.com](mailto:awoodgate@austin.rr.com). 

**Right:** Col. (now Maj. Gen.–Select) Mark E. Smith, the Civil Air Patrol's next National Commander. (Photo: CAP National Headquarters)

## **National Commander-Select Col. Mark Smith Has Ties to New Mexico Wing**

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On June 19, 2017, Civil Air Patrol's Board of Governors announced that Southwest Region Commander Col. Mark E. Smith had been selected as CAP's next CEO and National Commander. Smith will assume command during the organization's National Conference on Aug. 31-Sept. 2, in San Antonio, Texas.

Col. (now Maj. Gen.–select) Smith will serve a three-year term as National Commander, assuming command from Maj. Gen. Joeseeph Vazquez, the current national commander, whose term expires this year.

Smith's appointment as the new leader of CAP's 57,000 members nationwide is especially significant for New Mexico Wing members. He was a founding member of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron, and commanded the squadron from January 2006 to March 2008. In June 2011, he assumed command of New Mexico Wing. His vision statement for the Wing was, "New Mexico Wing – Best in the Southwest." His vision carried over to the Region, when he assumed command of Southwest Region in June 2015.

Under his watch, New Mexico Wing's Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron achieved Squadron of Distinction for 2013, ranking as the best squadron in the nation among 1,500 units nationwide.

New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mike Lee, who succeeded Smith as wing commander, said of Smith's appointment, "I have had the privilege of working with Mark Smith since 2011. His integrity, excellence and work ethic have inspired me to be a better servant to my community." Lee added, "I know that his leadership will lead the way to enhance the capabilities of CAP into the future."

A 1974 graduate of the United State Air Force Academy, Smith has spent more than 43 years in service to his community, state and nation. He currently heads up CAP's Leadership Development Working Group, a national-level team that has developed products, tools and courses to better equip CAP's leaders at all levels for success. The group recently released a highly acclaimed Unit Commander's Course.

Outgoing National Commander Vazquez said of his successor, "Col. Smith represents the best of the executive volunteer leaders in Civil Air Patrol today." He added, "His leadership of Southwest Region, as well as work on a new generation of squadron and wing commander training, greatly benefits all CAP members. He is a great choice to succeed me, and I look forward to working with him to achieve a smooth transition."

After being selected, Smith said. "I am excited to be given the opportunity to serve as Civil Air Patrol's next CEO and National Commander. I look forward to partnering with our phenomenal volunteers and staff to take our organization to even greater levels of excellence in service to community, state and nation." 🇺🇸





**Top:** Northrop Grumman B-2 Spirit flies over Tinker AFB at the “Star Spangled Salute” Air Show. (Photo: Capt Brad Kidder, CAP)

## ***Arkansas Wing Squadron Attends “Star Spangled Salute” at Tinker AFB***

*by Cadet Sr. Airman. Abigail Johnson, CAP, Arkansas Wing*

FORT SMITH, Ark. – 2017 marks the 70th anniversary of the United States Air Force, and for 27 members of the 83rd “Falcon” Composite Squadron, the appropriate way to celebrate the power and heritage of the Air Force was to attend the “Star Spangled Salute” airshow at Tinker Air Force Base. For the weekend of May 19-21, 2017, Fort Smith CAP members deployed with vans, trucks, tents and trailers to see flight demonstrations, static displays and the show headliner *USAF Thunderbirds* at Tinker AFB’s tribute to American air superiority.

As another of the 83rd Composite Squadron’s 2017 “cadet-driven, senior member-mentored” activities, cadets assumed roles in Plans, Logistics, Operations and Public Affairs under the tutelage of squadron senior members towards mission success before, during, and after the event. Weeks of planning and coordination turned to execution as the advanced echelon deployed on Friday morning to make preparations at the Tinker AFB camping area, building tents and a dining area before the two remaining vans arrived in the evening.

Adverse weather tested the crew’s agility in the face of extremes involving heavy rain, hail, high winds, lightning, tornado watches and flash flood warnings. After a difficult deployment and encampment, Saturday dawned with opening skies and a light breeze as the CAP airmen boarded buses headed to the airshow tarmac.





**Above:** The USAF Thunderbirds perform the “Delta Burst” maneuver at Tinker AFB.

**Below:** (L-R) Cadets Airman 1st Class Micah Alt, Sr. Airman Micah Johnson, and Airman Zach Siccardi at Tinker AFB, Okla. In the background, the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II. *(Photos this page: Capt Brad Kidder, CAP)*

Squadron flights broke into elements and scattered into the show as groups of cadets and senior members took in the vast array of static displays. A first for many squadron members, seeing these aircraft up close was revelatory: A Rockwell B-1 Lancer, Boeing B-52 Stratofortress and Boeing C-17 Globemaster III greeted visitors at the gate, flanked by a Lockheed C-130 Hercules, Northrop Grumman E-2C Hawkeye and Boeing E-3 Sentry. Too numerous to list in their entirety, displays and simulators peppered the flight-line as far as the eye could see.

Popular with attendees was the Oklahoma Wing display of Cessna 182T and GippsAero GA8 aircraft. Cadets and senior members of Arkansas’ neighbor in Southwest Region welcomed the visiting delegation with hospitality and friendliness in the best tradition of CAP’s camaraderie. Oklahoma Wing Commander Col. Dale Newell greeted Arkansas senior members, as cadets shared with cadets and communications officers sorted out radio channels for the day’s affairs.





**Above:** The USAF Thunderbirds perform the “Calypso Pass” at Tinker AFB. Notice the intake of Thunderbird #5 – The “5” is painted upside-down to look normal when flying inverted. (Photo: Cadet Sr. Airman Abigail Johnson, CAP)

**Below:** 83rd Composite Squadron Cadet Public Affairs Officer Cadet Sr. Airman Abigail Johnson (left) and Arkansas Wing PAO Capt. Brad Kidder meet the Thunderbird #12 Team PAO Capt. Sara Harper following the “Star Spangled Salute” Air Show at Tinker AFB, Okla. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Brad Burgin, CAP)

Notably, Oklahoma Wing cadets, clad in safety vests and sharply-worn uniforms, were seen assisting professionally in airshow duties, crowd management and visitor assistance throughout the weekend.





**Right:** Cadet Senior Airman Abigail Johnson, cadet public affairs officer for Fort Smith's 83rd Composite Squadron, at work at the Tinker AFB "Star Spangled Salute" Air Show. (Photo: Capt. Brad Kidder, Arkansas Wing)

**Below:** (L-R) Cadets Tori Garner, Gus Boblett, Shannon Rogers and Evan Wittig take in the USAF Thunderbirds. (Photo: Cadet Sr. Amn. Abigail Johnson, Arkansas Wing)



At 11 a.m. Saturday, flight teams began dazzling the crowd with aerial demonstrations of the McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 Hornet, Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II, and Northrop Grumman B-2 Spirit stealth bomber.

Boeing showed the versatility of their 707 airframe with simultaneous flights of the Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker refueler, Boeing E-3 Sentry AWACS radar platform, and Boeing E-6B Mercury command-and-control aircraft. The contrast of over 70 years of Air Force history was highlighted by a "Heritage Flight" comprised of an F-35 Lightning II (a 5th generation Mach 1.6 multirole stealth fighter) flying wingtip-to-wingtip with the WWII-era North American P-51 Mustang.





**Right:** Cadet Airman Shannon Rogers stands below the landing gear bay of a B-52 Stratofortress, at the Tinker AFB Air Show (Photos this page: Cadet Sr. Amn Abigail Johnson, Arkansas Wing)

**Below:** Proof that at least 10 CAP cadets can fit in a single landing gear bay of a B-52. (L-R) Cadets Gus Boblett, Samuel May, Raymond Smith, Evan Wittig, Caleb Berger, Shannon Rogers, Sara Robinson, Tori Garner, Grant Adams and Zach Siccardi.



Still more flight demonstrations included BT-13 Valiant, F4-U Corsair, C-47 Dakota and DHC-4 Caribou aircraft. Stunt pilot Matt Younkin flew his Twin Beech 18 in a demonstration of radial-powered grace, and Kent Pietsch flew his 1942 "Jelly Belly" Interstate Cadet in three appearances, the last of which concluded with successfully landing atop, and take-off from, the top of a moving truck.

"My favorite part (of the airshow) was getting to see all the different aircraft that the United States Armed Forces have used over the years," said Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Zachary Wouters. "It was really neat to see where we've come from and what we are capable of now."

"Watching the F-35 really made me want to become a fighter pilot," said Cadet Airman Victoria Garner.

Clear skies saw the USAF Thunderbirds take to the air from two different runways to fly their thrilling "high show" over Tinker AFB. Most of the Fort Smith cadets had never seen the Air Force Flight Demonstration Team in action. The stage was perfect: with a vast panorama to the west and a tall building just yards to the east, the Thunderbirds put on a top-notch performance, including the vertical "bomb-burst" and the crowd-jarring high-speed sneak attacks from the rear for which they are famous. Following the performance, the Thunderbird pilots and ground crew met with Civil Air Patrol members for autographs and photos.

"Watching the Thunderbirds was definitely my favorite part of the air show," reported a gleeful Cadet Sr. Airman Micah Johnson. "It was all incredible. I really liked touring the C-17 Globemaster, too."

Attending the airshow had another aerospace education purpose. Each cadet from the 83rd was assigned an aircraft from the show, instructed to research it and prepare a brief which would

be presented to the squadron at future meetings. Cadets toured their assigned aircraft, interviewed air- and ground crews and consulted online resources to gather pertinent, interesting details for their airframe. Depth and scope complemented what each had seen flying or stationary, as cadets prepared to compose their presentation. 🇺🇸





West Region, July, 2017



**Left:** Cadet 1st Lt. Steven Moran presides as President Pro Tem of Boys State Senate. (Photo: 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP)  
**Below:** Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan participates in a flag folding ceremony at Oklahoma Boys State. (Photo: American Legion Boys State Staff)

## **Oklahoma Wing Cadets Selected to Attend American Legion Boys State**

by 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP, Oklahoma Wing

MIAMI, Okla. – This year, four Oklahoma Wing cadets were selected as delegates to American Legion Boys State (founded in 1935), that ran on the week of May 29, 2017. One cadet returned this year to work on staff at Boys State.

The American Legion is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization. The organization is committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of community programs that advocate patriotism and honor. American Legion Boys State is among the most respected educational programs of government instruction for U.S. high school students. Delegates participate in local, county and state government.

Cadet Captain Josh Sutherland and Cadet 1st Lt. Steven Moran are members of Starbase Composite Squadron in Tulsa. Cadet Staff Sgt. Ray Hartman is from Broken Arrow Composite Squadron and Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Cole

Lindell is from Edmond Composite Squadron. All four were delegates at Oklahoma Boys State at North Eastern Oklahoma State University at Miami, Okla. Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan, who had been a delegate at Boys State in 2016, returned this year as a junior counselor. LeVan became a new American Legion member upon his enlistment into the Oklahoma Air National Guard.

Cadet Sutherland was elected Mayor of his Boys State city and eventually named Adjutant General. Cadet Moran was President Pro Tempore of the Senate.







**Left:** Cadet Capt. Josh Sutherland as Boys State Adjutant General escorts Boys State Governor for the State of State address at Boys State. (Photo: American Legion Boys State Staff)

**Below:** Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Cole Lindell participates in his Boys State city legislation. (Photo: 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP)

"Boys State taught me a lot about how the government works, and let us do some of those procedures with our own hands," said Cadet Sutherland. "Some of the highlights were almost impeaching the governor, and writing the bill that made all roads citizens. The main part about Boys State that I

admired so much was the friendships. Some of the friends that I made at Boys State will be my friends for life."

Boys State participants learn the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizens. The training is objective and centers on the structure of city, county and state governments. Operated by students elected to various offices, Boys State activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law-enforcement presentations, assemblies, bands, choruses and recreational programs.

"The 78th session of Oklahoma American Legion Boys State was a huge success this year! 430 high school junior boys from across Oklahoma came to NEO A&M College in Miami, Okla. for the 'Week That Shapes a Lifetime.' The program focused on leadership, patriotism, government, and service," said Oklahoma Boys State Director Clay Ballenger. "Outstanding speakers included Governor Mary Fallin, former Oklahoma Attorney General Mike Turpen, Retired Navy Admiral and Blue Angels pilot Doug McClain, and Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett. The delegates all served as state legislators and had an opportunity to participate in a police academy, fire academy, leadership school, patriotism school and a homeland defense school (led by the Oklahoma National Guard). They could also earn 3 hours of college credit after completing the week. We were pleased to have several members of the Civil Air Patrol who participated. Some were staff members and some delegates. They all helped make the program a success. When



they wore their uniforms, other delegates and staff were very impressed. They each looked sharp and professional. I would definitely say they were a step ahead of their peers due to their membership in the Civil Air Patrol. The cadets also rose to the top as leaders early on, helping other delegates with marching, cadences and appearance. We look forward to many more years of this successful partnership." 🇺🇸





**Top:** Arizona Wing Commander Col. Martha Morris presented the Congressional Gold Medal to former CAP Cadet Robert Joyner for stepping up to serve his nation during World War II. (Photo: Capt. Margot Myers, CAP).

### ***Congressional Gold Medal Presented to Arizona Veteran***

*by Capt. Margot Myers, CAP, Arizona Wing*

MESA, Ariz. – On April 11, 2017, in a ceremony at the Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum in Mesa, Robert Joyner of Apache Junction, Ariz., received a Congressional Gold Medal for his service in the Civil Air Patrol during World War II.

During the ceremony, Joyner said, "I have belonged to many different organizations in my life, but the one that had the most impact was the Civil Air Patrol. It opened doors for me that I never would have imagined."

The medal is awarded by the United States Congress and is the highest civilian award in the U.S., ranking at the same level as the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In 2014, Congress approved legislation to award a Congressional Gold Medal to members of the Civil Air Patrol who served during World War II. After Joyner contacted CAP National Headquarters, it was determined that his World War II-era service made him eligible to receive the medal. U.S. Representative Andrew Biggs and CAP Arizona Wing Commander Col. Martha Morris recognized Joyner at the ceremony and presented his medal. Arizona State Senator David Farnsworth and Apache Junction Mayor Jeff Serdy were also in attendance.

In her remarks, Morris quoted General Mike Hostage, now-retired commander of the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command, when he spoke about the gold medal winners at the initial award ceremony in Washington, DC. He said, "These CAP members didn't sign up and serve for glory, for glamour, or for pay. They stepped up because the nation had a need, and they had a capability that could meet that need."

In 1942, Joyner joined Squadron 527-2 in Indiana Group 7 in Indianapolis as a cadet while attending high school. When asked why he joined the CAP, Joyner said, "It was the thing to do back in those days and because I loved airplanes so much. It was my way to contribute to the national war effort."

In June 1945, he transferred to the Senior Squadron located at Weir Cook Municipal Airport in Indianapolis, and in September 1945, he was promoted to the grade of Warrant Officer, which he held until his enlistment in the U.S. Army Air Forces.

Joyner became an airborne photographer and was selected as an instructor on B-24 bombers for active duty airborne photography operations. He served two and a half years, leaving the newly formed U.S. Air Force as a non-commissioned officer.

After his military service, he worked in the nuclear and chemical industries. He returned to his home state of Arizona and currently resides in Apache Junction. Joyner and his wife, Verna, have eight children. Two of their sons carried on the family tradition, serving in the U.S. Air Force. 🇺🇸



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**Right:** Robert Joyner joined the CAP Cadet program in 1942. He estimates this photo to have been taken in 1944. *(Photo: Mr. Joyner's personal collection.)*

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**Top:** (L-R) Cadet Staff Sgt. Derrick Bourgeois, Cadet Senior Airman Louis Charbonnet, Cadet Airman Madelyn Manceaux, Cadet Staff Sgt. Breanna Charbonnet, and Cadet Airman Leonidas Beane. (Photo: S.M. Grace Beane)

## ***Louisiana Wing Cadet Squadron Presents Colors on Memorial Day***

*by S.M. Grace Beane, CAP, Louisiana Wing*

METAIRIE, La.— On May 29, 2017, the Civil Air Patrol Pontchartrain Cadet Squadron Color Guard presented the colors at the Memorial Day ceremony in the Atrium of East Jefferson General Hospital to honor those who died in service to the country.

The service included the National Anthem sung by Kira Worthy, and an invocation by the Rev. Larry Johnson, hospital chaplain. The Memorial Address was given by Chaplain (Maj.) Page Brooks, Ph. D. of the Louisiana Army National Guard. After a moment of silence was observed, Hospital Chaplain Rev. Byron Putnam led a solo of *God Bless America*. Refreshments were served.

The Pontchartrain Cadet Squadron Color Guard posted the colors at the beginning of the service, and retrieved them just before the dismissal. Members of the color guard were Cadet Staff Sgt. Breanna Charbonnet, Cadet Staff Sgt. Derrick Bourgeois, Cadet Senior Airman Louis Charbonnet, Cadet Airman Leonidas Beane, and Cadet Airman Madelyn Manceaux for the posting. Cadet Airman First Class Aiden Rome replaced Cadet Staff Sgt. Derrick Bourgeois for the retrieval of the colors. 🇺🇸



**Top:** Trainees and staff of the 2017 Oklahoma/Arkansas Wings Joint Encampment, Fort Sill, Okla. (Photo: Cadet Lt. Col. Holly Fieglein, CAP, Texas Wing)

## **Oklahoma and Arkansas Wings Host Encampment at Fort Sill**

*by Capt. Brad Kidder and Cadet Sr. Airman Abigail Johnson, CAP, Arkansas Wing, and 2nd Lt. Tiara Sweeney, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

FORT SILL, Okla. – On June 3-11, 2017, an encampment of 143 Civil Air Patrol cadets from 11 Wings and five Regions converged at the Fort Sill Army Training Center for the 2017 combined Oklahoma and Arkansas Wings Cadet Encampment. Seven flights faced nine days of non-stop, high-intensity activities challenging every aspect of growth CAP seeks for its cadet corps. By week's end, cadets passed in review before the Oklahoma Wing Commander and Southwest Region Vice Commander as their parents and family members cheered the accomplishments of the young volunteer airmen.

Encampment Commander Lt. Col. Joe Rucker executed a comprehensive program of classroom and outdoor activities, engaging cadets in challenges well beyond CAP National Headquarters' minimum expectations. Graduation from Cadet Encampment is a prerequisite for most of CAP's National Cadet Special Activities such as Powered Flight Academy, Hawk Mountain Ranger School, or National Emergency Services Academy, and opens doors of greater adventure and higher achievement through CAP.





**Above:** Sunset on the PT field, Fort Sill, Okla. (Photo: Capt. Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing)

**Below:** Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Clara Breucks of Oklahoma Wing and Cadet Capt. Hannah Cheatham, Arkansas Wing, use "the knife hand" to try and break each other's composure during a military bearing stand-off at the 2017 OK/AR Encampment. (Photo: Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Micah Walker, CAP, Oklahoma Wing)

Cadets embraced military-style life at Fort Sill in Lawton, Okla., hustling about as they honed their drill and ceremony skills, studied leadership and teamwork, all while giving each other mutual, team-based support to surmount the challenges of demanding military-style training. Meals varied from the dining facility to the ubiquitous, some-assembly-required meals ready to eat (MREs) prepared in the field. Fort Sill's barracks and training classrooms were only part of what the base offered, as the Army brought in artillery hardware, welcomed CAP to their artillery museum, and made time available for activities at their combat conditioning obstacle courses and Col. Treadwell rappelling facility.

Each basic flight was issued colored T-shirts of red, blue, yellow, orange, green and purple, and earned rights to their guidon on Day 3. The advanced training Cadet Leadership Unit (CLU) wore olive-drab T-shirts and, not to be out-classed, built their own guidon from a closet rod and a pair of ABU trousers.

Team-building and mutual accountability became paramount early in the week, as custody of each flight's guidon and water coolers were exposed as points of potential humiliation before the other flights. Recovering a stolen guidon produced heated yet humorous high-energy negotiations involving such heady matters as pride and sacrifice accompanied by some easy-to-understand gestures and facial expressions. The energies of competition and cohesiveness inevitably converged at just the right moment, ensuring that no lesson had to be learned twice, as teamwork and attention to detail became each flight's means to triumph over adversity.

Second Lt. Gary Podgurski, flight training officer for the Cadet Leadership Unit, observed, "The CLU made it plain that they were out to get the basic flight guidons. Strong cadet leadership at the front of the basic flights compounded by the CLU flight nipping at them from the rear made for six very single-minded, determined groups of trainees."





**Above:** A Boeing C-17 flies in formation behind the boom of a Boeing KC-135 as cadets at the 2017 OK/AR Joint Encampment watch USAF pilots demonstrate air-to-air refueling. (Photo: OK/AR Public Affairs Staff)

Cadet Tech Sgt. Noah Barnhart, of the CLU, said, “We did leadership training all the time. I will carry what I learned about leadership over to my squadron, and that will help me in being a flight sergeant or commander, or in any leadership position. I learned to read body language, to see what works and what doesn’t. I saw what they mean by ‘Praise in public, scorn in private’ in an eyes-on environment.”

The highlight air activity of the week was a refueling demonstration by aircrews from Altus AFB, Okla. Pairs of cadets rotated through jump seats in a Boeing C-17 cockpit and Boeing KC-135 Boomer Operator station to witness an actual refueling operation, accomplished high above the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Pre-contact, refueling and disconnect procedures were demonstrated for each set of cadets, some of whom were flying for their first time and none of whom had seen another airplane that big, only 20 feet away.

Cadet Airman Micah Barnhart said, “It was my second time in an airplane, besides my CAP O-flight. I was in the KC-135 boomer’s bay watching people in the C-17. I waved, but they didn’t wave back. They looked... busy.”

Cadet Tech. Sgt. Amber Layman of Ponca City said, “The activities were fun and the training was rigorous. There was a lot of competition. It was great to put on the headphones and ask questions in the cockpit while we were flying.” An encampment veteran, Layman served on the cadet Standardization and Evaluation team, pushing cadets to new heights of excellence in self-discipline, military bearing and customs and courtesies, as each airman’s uniform and bunk were inspected daily. Results from these and other criteria were used to provide metrics for the much-coveted “Honor Flight of the Day” title.



**Right:** Cadet Tech. Sgt. Isaac Whittley, Oklahoma Wing, receives a last-minute reassurance before scaling down the 40' wall of Treadwell Tower. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay Langley, CAP, Middle East Region)

**Below:** Graduation dignitaries (L-R) Southwest Region Vice Commander (East) Col. Joe Smith, Oklahoma Wing Commander Col. Dale Newell, Southwest Region Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Harriet Smith, and Arkansas Wing Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Larry Webster. (Photo: Capt. Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing)

The premier ground activity was rappelling down Ft. Sill's Treadwell Tower. U.S. Army instructors taught each participant how to assemble a Swiss seat from rope and use guide- and brake-hand techniques to control a vertical descent. Once down the 10' training wall, cadets and senior members alike scaled up ladders and across rope bridges to the top of the 40' Treadwell facility. Army instructors challenged each person's instinctual sense of self-preservation with a directive to climb over the tower's edge, lean back to a right angle, bounce three times and "trust the rope." On the ground, belayers shouted words of encouragement as those on the wall uttered sounds ranging from fear to commitment.

Rappelling was Cadet Airman Micah Barnhart's favorite event. He said, "It's actually less scary jumping down the wall than walking down it. Going over the edge, it felt much more than four feet to that foot board." Cadet Sr. Airman Alden Massey commented, "I didn't really trust my own thoughts. I felt happier at the bottom than I did at the top, because I was able to do it even though my brain did not want me to."

"Many fears were challenged [at Treadwell]. A lot of cadets grew in ways they didn't know they could," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Larry Killian, the last CAP member to scale down the tower. "I didn't see many cadets in my office this year. It was strange," he added as senior members reviewed the week.

Saturday night, on the eve of graduation, a catered Combat Dining Out brought unity to the seven cadet flights, the student staff flight and the contingent of senior members, as Lt. Cols. Rucker and Langley delivered the requisite awards, speeches and banter. Signifying that the many flights were now recognized as a single Encampment, the colored shirts were retired and each person issued an ABU-compliant, sand-colored 2017 OK/AR Encampment replacement. Trainees were instructed to return to their barracks, change into the new shirts, and await further instructions.

While they were doing as ordered, coolers of water and a number of empty water guns were placed on the grounds as senior staff members armed with fully-loaded water "cannons" formed a

gauntlet at the door. This would prove the only opportunity to get in a shot as the cadets were called back to the yard – the words "Fight's on!" cutting through the clamor of screaming cadets and senior members. 🇺🇸





**Top:** (Clockwise from left): Cadet 2nd Lts. Kyle Stafford, Davis Little and Marshall Banks; Cadet Chief Master Sgts. Jacob Hensley and Mark Chappell, and Cadet Airman 1st Class Olivia Spafford made up the 2017 CyberPatriot high school team. (Photo: 1st Lt. Cael Chappell, CAP)

## ***New Mexico Wing Places 16th Nationwide in CyberPatriot Competition***

*by 2nd Lt. Michael R. Saul, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On Feb. 18, 2017, New Mexico Wing placed 16th nationwide as part of the ninth annual National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, popularly known as CyberPatriot, sponsored by the Air Force Association.

The ranking places New Mexico Wing in the top three percent of all units that participated as members of Civil Air Patrol. The team's 16th place ranking is an overall improvement over last year, when the team placed 19th among the top four percent of all competing units.

CyberPatriot coach 1st Lt. Cael Chappell said of the team's performance, "They have continually improved every year, and that is an impressive feat."

Additionally, the CyberPatriot team, fielded by Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron, placed in the following categories:

- No. 1 CAP Team in New Mexico.
- No. 2 All Service Team in New Mexico.
- No. 65 nationwide in the All Service Division, finishing in the top 4% of all units. (Last year, the team finished No. 73, placing in the top 5% of all units.)

This was also the first year that the squadron fielded also a middle school team, which earned second place at CyberPatriot's Thundercup Competition on April 27, 2017, held at Sandia Labs in Albuquerque, and advanced to the state competition, where they took first place, and were honored at a separate banquet on May 20, 2017. They did not advance to the national level

Established by the Air Force Association in 2009, CyberPatriot is designed for high school and middle school students to detect vulnerabilities in their online networks, and to protect them against cyber-attacks. The teams are placed in the positions of newly-hired information technology (IT) professionals, tasked with managing the network of a small company. Their mission is to harden their computer network against cyber-attacks while maintaining critical services to the company.

New Mexico Wing has fielded a CyberPatriot team every year since 2013, and has increased its rankings year after year. 🇺🇸





**Top:** Participants at the UCC conducted on May 6-7, 2017, at the Million Air facility at Hobby Airport. (Photo: Lt. Col. Mike Turoff, CAP, Texas Wing)

## ***Texas Wing Conducts Unit Commanders Course***

*by Lt. Col. Mike Turoff, CAP, Texas Wing*

HOUSTON – During May 6-7, 2017, Group IV, Texas Wing conducted a Unit Commanders Course at the Million Air facility, located at the William P. Hobby International Airport, Houston.

Students were: Capt. Aubrey Applewhite, 1st Lt. Richard Bonica, Maj. Natalie Franc, 2nd Lt. William F. Guy, Capt. Michael Menard, 2nd Lt. Adam Muncy, Lt. Col. Alan O'Martin, 1st Lt. Darrell Smith, and Maj. John Stafford.

Staff were: Lt. Col. Michael Turoff, Lt. Col. David Ogden, Lt. Col. Robert Beeley, Maj. Ric Walters, Lt. Col. Eli Aaron, Lt. Col. Gerry Gallegos, and Lt. Col. Don Fisher. 🇺🇸



**Top:** The cadets and senior members of Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron who participated in the squadron’s Cadet Day at Ninja Force Gym, under the tutelage of owner and operator Josh Kronberg (front row, center, kneeling). (Photo: Courtesy of Mr. Walter Barela)

## ***New Mexico Wing Cadets Develop Their Team-Building Skills***

*by Capt. Mary A. Fox, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On June 29, 2017, the cadets and senior members of Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron participated in a ninja-style obstacle course at the Ninja Force Gym in Albuquerque, owned and operated by ninja warrior competitor Josh Kronberg.

Cadet Senior Master Sgt. John Nichols, the squadron’s Basic Cadet Training instructor, organized the evening – known as Cadet Day – to help squadron members try their best and strengthen their team spirit.

Throughout the evening, the cadets consistently challenged themselves to step outside their comfort zones and work together as a team. They slid down a two-inch diameter knotted rope from 20 feet above. They swung between loops, trying to remain in the air. By the end of the





vegan chocolate cake in honor of her two years of service to the squadron.

**Above:** Cadet Airman 1st Class Samuel L. Anderson practices his rope skills (*Photos: Capt. Mary Fox, CAP*)

**Right:** Cadet Senior Master Sgt. John Nichols runs the obstacle course.

The evening also marked Nichols' 15th birthday, and he, too, was given a cake to commemorate the day. Since the cadets had been working out for two hours, both cakes were consumed in fairly short order.

Overall, participants pronounced Nichol's Cadet Day, "An exciting and wonderful opportunity for team-building, and fun for the entire squadron." 🇺🇸

evening, the cadets were worn out, but their blistered hands were trophies of the memories that conquering the obstacle course had provided.

The evening ended with a farewell party for Maj. Amanda Somerville, the squadron's deputy commander for cadets, who is leaving the squadron to pursue other interests. Somerville, a vegan, was presented with a







**Top:** Exercise staff and trainees (Back to front, L-R): 1st Lt. Lucinda McFarlin (TX-455), 2nd Lt. Cynthia Schunior (TX-455), Cadet 2nd Lt. Jonathan Frangione (AR-115), Cadet Amn. Erin Minton (TX-089), Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Vincent Joy (TX-089), Cadet Amn. Kevin King (AR-042), Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Gabriel Gentry (AR-095), Cadet Tech Sgt. Ezekiel Joy (TX-089), 2nd Lt. Christopher Hogan (AR-042), Cadet Lt. Col. Coy Nickerson (AR-095), 2nd Lt. Darrell Green (TX-214), 1st Lt. Stacie Smith (TX-089), 2nd Lt. CharlieAnn Green (AR-095), 2nd Lt. Melissa Griner (TX-455), Cadet Sr. Amn. Ryan Darragh (AR-042), Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Hosanna Johns (TX-089), Cadet Sr. Amn. Jodie Rasmussen (TX-455), Cadet 2nd Lt. Ian Lucas (AR-095), Cadet Amn. Sergio Alva-Gonzalez (TX-455), Cadet Sr. Amn. Gavin Griner (TX-455), Cadet 2nd Lt. Nicholas Smith (TX-089), Cadet Amn. Nathan Cox (AR-095), Cadet Amn. 1st Class Piper Loy (TX-089), Cadet Master Sgt. Kaitlyn Williams (AR-095), Cadet Amn. Charly Thomas (TX-455), Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Avery Griner (TX-455), Cadet 2nd Lt. Keaton Key (AR-095), Lt. Col. Melanie Capehart (SWR Staff), and K9 Attycus. (Photo: Capt. Kayla Sartor, CAP)

## **Arkansas Wing Squadron Conducts Ground Team Training Exercise**

*by Lt. Col. Melanie Capehart, CAP, Southwest Region, and Capt. Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing*

TEXARKANA, Ark. – On the weekend of May 19-21, 2017, Arkansas Wing's 95th Composite Squadron conducted a successful Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Camp Preston Hunt, Ark. A curriculum designed to introduce new Civil Air Patrol members to ground search and rescue (SAR) techniques complemented opportunities for seasoned members to gain experience in enhanced SAR methods and procedures. Courses were offered for Mission Radio Operator (MRO), Mission Staff Assistant (MSA), Urban Direction Finding (UDF), Ground Team Member (GTM) 3, GTM2, GTM1 and Ground Team Leader (GTL) ratings at a fee of \$15 per person.

Twenty CAP cadets and 13 senior members from Texas and Arkansas Wings gathered on Friday afternoon for check-in, records review and a safety briefing, verifying prerequisites and interviewing each to learn specific training goals. Familiarization and preparatory classes for tasks common to all ground team ratings, including inspection of the required 24-hour pack, were completed. Flights were formed based on curriculum needs, after which bunks were assigned and the mission base radio mast erected.

Camp Preston Hunt, that is operated by the Boy Scouts of America in Genoa, Ark., southeast of Texarkana, is an ideal training site with widely-varied terrain of woodlands, swamps and other





**Above:** Cadets learn to use a spinal board to immobilize and safely transport Cadet Airman Nathan Cox of Texarkana's 95th CS, simulating a person with suspected back injuries. (Photo: Capt. Matthew Sartor, CAP)

water hazards, dirt roads and hiking trails, significant navigation waypoints, and sources of electrical interference useful in training with electronic and radio search equipment. CAP trains SAR team members to overcome these variables as they search for missing aircraft or lost persons, provide disaster relief, or aid in homeland security tasks. Camp Hunt's numerous cabins, each with some 16 beds, allow for open-barrack billets with adequate separation for cadet males and females, senior member quarters, and separate latrine and bathing facilities.

After early breakfast on Saturday morning, training started according to flight-specific schedules, with essential classroom lessons supplemented by hours of practical demonstrations and hands-on field exercises. Cadets witnessed a demonstration of canine capabilities courtesy of Little River County Sheriff handler Vynn Stuart and her canine team of West and Gordi. A broad scope of additional activities included tracking, rescue, medical assistance and gathering of





**Left:** Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Vincent Joy of Texas Wing's Gregg County Composite Squadron aids a Cub Scout as CAP ground teams process a simulated accident scene involving a downed aircraft during a nighttime SAR exercise. Cadets set up triage and treated five Cub Scouts sporting simulated prosthetic injuries. (Photo: Capt. Kayla Sartor, CAP)

**Below:** Cadet Airman Kevin King of the Little Rock Composite Squadron attempts to assess the condition of Cadet Senior Airman Jodie Rasmussen of the Nacogdoches Composite Squadron as cadets practice triage in the field, learning to make choices in light of limited resources by establishing priorities in treatment, transport, and destination for patients ranging from dead to walking wounded. (Photo: Capt. Matthew Sartor, CAP)

findings in a simulated aircraft mishap. Each event was thoroughly debriefed to improve understanding of successes and shortcomings, honing participants' skills during the weekend.

Assignments became increasingly complex over time, with one activity ensuring each trainee was able to assume responsibilities of any other position on the crew, teaching the importance of teamwork and the essential contribution of each member to the overall success of the mission. Evaluators noted areas for improvement, devoting necessary attention as needed to shore up the team's total strength.

Saturday evening provided the most challenging scenario of the weekend, starting with a more comprehensive safety briefing in preparation for a night mission to be conducted under a waning crescent moon and over challenging terrain. Three ground teams participated in the exercise: Team Charlie, led by 2nd Lt. Mark Griner of Texas Wing's Nacogdoches Composite Squadron; Team Delta, led by Texarkana's 2nd Lt. CharlieAnn Green; and Team Echo, led by Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Vincent Joy of Texas Wing's Gregg County Composite Squadron.

Each team was deployed to different initial points from which they would attempt to locate via visual, audible and electronic means a simulated downed aircraft reported to have five people on board. Once found, teams were to secure the site, advise mission base, and render aid to survivors. Coming from different directions, ground teams used hand-held radio-frequency direction finders to track an emergency locator transmitter (ELT) signal, while listening for audible cues from possible persons in distress and looking for unusual visual cues.

Moving through the darkness as they closed in on the ELT, searchers soon heard muffled cries for help coming from the darkness as area Cub Scouts feigning to be wounded passengers brought increasing realism to the exercise. Each team halted just outside the accident scene, as leaders moved in to assess conditions around the aircraft. Griner discovered several "injured survivors" and marshaled ground teams to begin their on-scene response. One team secured the site perimeter as the other two helped to triage and treat the most "severely wounded," evacuate the "walking wounded," and transport those requiring backboards to a nearby road where (in a real-world event) emergency medical crews would meet them.

A final, comprehensive debrief was conducted after Sunday breakfast to quantify the successes and learning opportunities shared between trainers and trainees. Camp was broken down with a facility-wide policing of trash and debris and dismantling of the radio mast. In all, four Urban Direction Finders were qualified, along with five GTM3's, two GTM2's, two MSAs, two Mission Safety Officers, and three MROs. The next Texarkana Ground Team Exercise is tentatively scheduled for October, 2017. 📷








**Top:** (L-R): Cadet Staff Sgt. Derrick Bourgeois, Cadet Senior Airman Louis Charbonnet, Cadet Airman Madelyn Manceaux, and Cadet Airman First Class Aiden Rome. (Photo: S.M. Grace Beane)

## ***Louisiana Wing Cadet Squadron Presents Colors at St. Louis Cathedral***

*by S.M. Grace Beane, CAP, Louisiana Wing*

NEW ORLEANS – On May 20, 2017, the Order of St. Lazarus, a 900 year-old military and hospitaller order under the patronage of the Royal House of France, held a service of investitures and the bequeathing of knighthoods at a solemn ceremony at St. Louis Cathedral. His Excellency Count Jan Dobrzensky z Dobrzenicz, the order's 50th Grandmaster, conducted the ceremony.

The United States was represented by the Pontchartrain Cadet Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) as the national color guard, and they were joined in procession by the clergy, the members of the order, and the order's color bearer. The CAP Color Guard posted the colors at the beginning of the ceremony, and retrieved the colors at its conclusion.

Following the ceremony, the CAP Color Guard marched in procession from the Cathedral to the Royal Sonesta Hotel, escorting the horse-drawn coach conveying Count Jan and the Prince of Orleans and family, joined by the Joan of Arc Society. 





**Top:** (L-R) Capt. David McBlair and Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan after a successful flight. *(Photos: 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP)*

## ***Oklahoma Wing Encourages Cadet Flight Training***

*by 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

TULSA, Okla. – Aerospace Education is one of the Civil Air Patrol's missions, and one of the Civil Air Patrol's greatest benefits is teaching the next generation how to fly.

Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan has been interested in flying his entire life. He joined Civil Air Patrol in May, 2014 and is currently taking flight instruction from Capt. David McBlair.

McBlair has been involved with Civil Air Patrol for many years. His CAP career began as a cadet with Enid Composite Squadron, reaching the rank of Technical Sergeant as a cadet. He re-joined CAP in 2008, with his eldest son, Joshua. The McBlair's were members of Starbase Composite Squadron in Tulsa.





**Above:** (L-R) Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan prepares to write the flight plan, under the guidance of Capt. David McBlair.

“Joshua didn’t stay with Civil Air Patrol,” McBlair said. “He developed other interests. I stayed with the squadron for two years before transferring to Council Oak Senior Squadron for two more years. I took a two-year break before joining Broken Arrow Composite Squadron.”

After high school, Capt. McBlair enlisted in the Air Force Reserve, and soon afterwards transferred to the Colorado Air National Guard for four years. He also spent a year with the Kansas Air National Guard and one year with the Oklahoma Air National Guard. He worked in munitions shop with all units. In 1991, McBlair was named Airman of the Year with the 140th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron in Buckley, Colo.

McBlair’s flight career began in Enid, Okla. where he completed his private pilot training in 1995. He earned his CFII at Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa in 2000. He worked for an aviation company in Boulder, Colo. where he was Chief Pilot and Flight Instructor. He has also done contract flights for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) where he flew unpressurized Cessna 210s to 27,000 feet for air sampling. He is currently a First Officer with Omni Air International, and lives in Sapulpa with wife Melissa and two young sons. His eldest son, Joshua, is now an Airman First Class with the U.S. Air Force at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Capt. McBlair, who is dedicated to the future of Aviation, recently accepted command of Council Oak Senior Squadron in Tulsa, and this summer is an instructor pilot for Southwest Region Powered Flight Academy in Shawnee, Okla. In addition, he is currently instructing Cadet LeVan who is pursuing an FAA private pilot rating.

“My goal is to instruct cadets over the age of sixteen that have a desire to earn their Private Pilot Certificate,” McBlair said. “Civil Air Patrol offers an extraordinary program for its cadets interested in flying. Cadets only pay for hours on a CAP aircraft, plus the cost of fuel, without

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incurring instructor expense. Of course, they have to find a CAP Instructor Pilot, but once they do, it's a sweet deal."

His student, Cadet Lt. Col. LeVan, couldn't be happier: he wants to have his private pilot training completed before he leaves for basic training in the Air Force in August. "I am so grateful and honored to have instruction from Capt. McBlair," said LeVan. "I have learned so much from him. All Civil Air Patrol pilots that I have flown with for orientation flights are very professional and thorough. Capt. McBlair goes that extra step to ensure that I understand everything. He is an exceptional instructor and mentor."

LeVan attended the Southwest Region Powered Flight Academy last summer. He received over ten hours' instruction during the academy and completed his first solo flight. He also completed Cadet Officer School last summer at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. He is a GTM1-rated ground team member, Mission Radio Operator, Mission Staff Assistant and Flight-line Member qualified, and is the Oklahoma Wing Cadet Safety Officer. LeVan served on Oklahoma Wing Cadet Advisory Council and is a member of Southwest Region Cadet Advisory Council. He is a recipient of The Brown Family Flight Scholarship through Civil Air Patrol.

"We are all proud of this cadet," said 2nd Lt. Justin Sexton about LeVan. "He has not only succeeded in Civil Air Patrol, but he is close to finishing his Eagle Rank with Boy Scouts of America. He volunteers with his high school and is just an all-around exceptional person. I can't wait to see what he does with his private pilot certificate. He says he plans to stay with Civil Air Patrol and pay it forward to the next generation of pilots. My bet is that he will do just that."

Members of Council Oak Senior Squadron have claimed LeVan as the squadron's "token cadet" because he has always volunteered to help the squadron with anything that needed done and he was allowed to do as a cadet. Several members of Council Oak attended the presentation ceremony for LeVan when he earned his Gen. Billy Mitchell Award. 🇺🇸

**Below:** Cadet Kurt LeVan at the controls of the Civil Air Patrol Cessna comes in for a landing.





**Right:** “The Eagle and Fledgling” is a two-ton statue given to the Air Force Academy by the Air Training Command in 1958. The Cadet Chapel stands in the background. (Photo: Capt Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing)

**Below:** RMR RSC Team #1 in discussion of “How to identify, develop and motivate CAP leaders.” (L-R) Maj. Barry Albright, Utah Wing; Maj. Stephen Shultz, Texas Wing; Maj. Steven Goetz, Illinois Wing; Maj. Scott Carlisi, Utah Wing; Capt. Don Duff, Alaska Wing; and Capt. Brad Kidder, Arkansas Wing. (Photo: Capt Cynthia Smith, Rocky Mountain Region)

## **Southwest Region Members Go “In-Residence” at Air Force Academy**

by Capt Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. –

Three Civil Air Patrol members from Southwest Region made the journey to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs to attend Region Staff College – Rocky Mountain style. A total of 22 members from 12 states and five regions converged for the June 24-30, 2017, in-residence course to study CAP’s intermediate-level leadership curriculum.

Maj. Stephen Shultz of Texas Wing attended with Maj. Patricia Schmidt and Capt. Brad Kidder of Arkansas Wing what proved to be a “most intensive and invigorating leadership training event,” according to Schmidt. “This is the best CAP training I have attended in my career thus far.”

As described by CAP Pamphlet 50-6, “Region Staff College (RSC) is CAP’s school for members desiring to become higher level leaders. Most of the participants will have held one or more leadership positions at the squadron level. Many of the participants will have some experience at the group or wing level, with a significant number serving as squadron commanders. Graduates will manage programs and events at the operational level. The goal of RSC is to influence our officers and NCOs towards higher leadership.”

Managed for a third consecutive year by Director of Professional Development Capt. Cynthia Smith, Rocky Mountain Region (RMR), the course syllabus required four blocks of instruction



encompassing leadership and management, member behavior and interaction, organizational communications, and a discretionary director's block which Capt. Smith dedicated to "360° Leadership" and "Wing/Region Challenges and Opportunities." Simultaneous training with a Region Cadet Leadership School provided special opportunities for Smith's "Motivating Across Generations" module, which also introduced cadets to wing- and region-level officers' function and responsibilities.

Of notable merit to RMR's success was the use of Civil Air Patrol and Air Force officers as instructors. Key presenters for the 2017 RMR college featured RMR Commander Col. Tom Kettell, Wyoming Wing Commander Col. Jeff Johnson, and 42-year Air Force veteran Col. Paula Penson. All were present the entire week, sharing their experience and vision in CAP core values, decision processes, mentoring, and leadership in a volunteer environment.

"I think both students and staff were inspired to excellence by the leadership and example of Col. Kettell," said Maj. Barry Albright of Utah Wing, team leader for Capt. Kidder's group. "Col. Kettell gave us hope for change by his frankness. I personally felt I had just gone through professional leadership training that would have cost several thousand dollars in a corporate environment."

Col. Penson asked each participant to take an online Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, the results of which were used to form three teams of diverse personalities tasked to resolve specific challenges as given by Col. Kettell. "How do I identify, develop and motivate CAP members with leadership ability? How do I address retention issues in the region? And how do we mentor leaders who will take ownership in positions of responsibility?" he asked. These questions became the prime focus for each team, whose final project was to present a formal, implementable solution to the region commander.

Teamwork, gleaned the most from each personality type, and bringing to bear the best of what each individual had to contribute, proved the ticket to success for students and staff. Each group worked together, ate together, traveled in a crew van together, and with only one dormitory access badge per team, was held to a high order of accountability.

Course students were unanimous in their assessment, "The caliber of instruction by CAP and Air Force officers – augmented by the involvement of region and wing commanders – and the exemplary leadership of the organizers and managers were second-to-none." A widely-perceived, deeply felt understanding of how effective leadership can make or destroy the organization was palpable.

Armed with key phrases such as, "Don't regulate what should be managed," and, "Staff to your weaknesses," CAP officers departed the academy with common objectives: "Take these skills back to my unit, rise to new levels of success through competent leadership, and serve my airmen with the support needed to help them achieve their goals."

Leadership truly is a top-down culture of influence, and the 2017 Rocky Mountain Region Leadership Academy was proof of CAP's commitment to excellence. 🇺🇸

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**Right:** (L-R) Rocky Mountain Region Commander Col. Tom Kettell presents a Certificate of Graduation to Texas Wing's Maj. Stephen Shultz. (Photo: Capt Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing)

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**Top:** Thunderbird pilots perform a "Delta burst" formation. (Photo: 2nd Lt Brandon Lunsford Sr., CAP)

**Below:** CAP volunteers help erect dining tents before the air show begins. (Photo: S. M. Jennifer Hogan, CAP)

## ***Oklahoma Wing Supports Air Show at Tinker AFB's 75th Anniversary***

*by Senior Member Jennifer Hogan, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

TINKER AFB, Okla. – The May 21-22, 2017, Star Spangled Salute Air Show had a record attendance of nearly 250,000 for the two-day event. Base leadership had to close the gates early Saturday afternoon as the ramp and flight line reached capacity, a first for air shows held at Tinker. But this could not have been done without careful planning and Civil Air Patrol volunteers.

Saturday started with Old Glory descending from the sky on the back of a parachutist, and ended Sunday with a roar as the Thunderbirds raced through the sky in complex aerobatics.

During this weekend of blue skies and mild temperatures, spectators were greeted by smiling faces in uniform: nearly 100 Civil Air Patrol volunteers worked more than 2,500 hours during this event, helping make it the most successful in Tinker AFB history.

On Saturday morning, CAP members were hard at work setting up tents and chairs and rolling airplanes out of hangars. Due to severe weather the night before, air show organizers and vendors had been unable to set up early. Cadet Capt. Jackie Harsha, from the Edmond Composite Squadron, said, "I like planes. My mom joined CAP when she was 16, so it has been in the family for a long time."





**Right:** A Civil Air Patrol aircrew flew photo sorties during the airshow, showing nearly 250,000 people in attendance. (Photo: Capt. Christopher Anders, CAP)

**Below:** CAP Capt. Matthew Gregory explains the instrument panel to a child sitting in a CAP airplane. (Photo: S. M. Jennifer Hogan, CAP)

Oklahoma Wing displayed two airplanes next to their recruiting tent, a GippsAero GA8 and a Cessna 182. In addition, another CAP C-182 and aircrew flew photo sorties several times during each day to help air show organizers evaluate traffic flow and parking lot capacities.

CAP members talked to interested attendees about their aircraft and their mission serving Oklahoma with emergency services and volunteerism. CAP Capt. Matthew Gregory helped child after child climb up into the pilot's seat.



"The smile on their faces was priceless," said Gregory. "Many were interested in CAP and our mission. They like the idea of being able to give back to the community, and CAP is a great way to do that."

U.S. Air Force Col. Kenyon Bell, the Tinker AFB base commander, felt the CAP volunteers were a large part of the air show's success.

"The Civil Air Patrol is a huge asset to our air show, and every

cadet I spoke with was professional, courteous, and a pleasure to work with as part of our airshow team," said Bell. "The way that you jumped in to help us recover from the setbacks created by the severe weather was nothing less than outstanding! Thank you again for all of your support. Our airshow would not be as successful without the CAP's involvement."

From the "unexpected" Jelly Belly trick pilot to the screaming Lockheed Martin F-35, cadets and senior members had front-row seats to the airshow as they stood watch to ensure attendees were safe and did not enter the flight-line. Team Tinker flew a trio of aircraft for the massive crowd, including the E-3 Sentry, KC-135 Stratotanker and E-6 Mercury – all Boeing aircraft.





**Left:** Brothers Cadet Col. Jarod Murphey and Cadet Col. Jarel Murphey received a Thunderbird challenge coin for completing the Spaatz Civil Air Patrol curriculum from Thunderbird pilot #3 USAF Maj. Nate Hoffman. (Photo: S. M. Jennifer Hogan, CAP)

**Below:** (L-R) Cadet Bethany Wilson of Tulsa takes a selfie with Tinker AFB Commander Col. Kenyon Bell, USAF. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Brandon Lunsford Sr, CAP)

At one point during the flight demonstrations the announcer

retorically asked the audience, "Do you think the Wright Brothers had any idea what would become of their idea?" Answering himself he added, "I don't think they did." More than 100 years later, the love of airplanes and their gravity-defying ability continue to fascinate many. Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Lauren Shaffer, from the Broken Arrow Composite Squadron, volunteered to work the show not only because she likes planes, but because of opportunity.

"I enjoy all the activities we do in CAP and getting opportunities other people don't," Shaffer said. "I grew up going to air shows and it has become a hobby. And, as a CAP member you get to meet the Thunderbirds!"

The Thunderbirds did steal the show with their aerobatics, yet they took time after their last performance to spend time with the Oklahoma Wing volunteers. Thunderbird #3 Maj. Nate Hofmann, himself a former CAP cadet, surprised two cadets by presenting them with the coveted Spaatz Award they had earned, which less than one percent of all CAP cadets ever achieve. The brothers, Cadet Cols. Jarod and Jarel Murphey, of the Edmond Composite Squadron, were nearly speechless.

"I wasn't expecting it to be like this," said Jarod Murphey. "This was the last big checkmark for my CAP career. Every cadet should try [to achieve the Spaatz]. It is attainable."

Each brother was given a Thunderbird challenge coin, in addition to his framed certificate. Hofmann's words of encouragement to the brothers and Oklahoma Wing volunteers summed up not only the Murpheys' achievement but the community service the team had just completed.

"What these guys have accomplished is incredible," said Hofmann. "This is the beginning, for you to take the leadership lessons you have learned and cultivate an environment of mutual respect, focused on community service." 🇺🇸







**Top:** Cadets Zachary Lang (left) and Gabe Fox (right) prepare to receive their Mitchell Awards from New Mexico Vice Commander-North Lt. Col. Annette Peters, assisted by Maj. Mark Peters. *(All Photos: Maj. Dan Gabel, CAP)*

### ***Two New Mexico Wing Cadets Are Presented the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award***

*by Maj. Dan Gabel, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. – On June 5, 2017, for the third time this year, Los Alamos Composite Squadron recognized the achievement of cadets earning Civil Air Patrol's Gen. Billy Mitchell Award. Cadets Zachary Lang and Gabe Fox were promoted to the grade of cadet second lieutenant and presented with the award, named after aerospace pioneer Brig. Gen. Billy Mitchell.

Cadet Lang set his sights on earning the Mitchell Award shortly after his brother earned his not too long ago. He is planning on joining the United States Navy.

Cadet Fox said, "It's been a long road and a long, hard challenge, but it pays off in the end." Fox joined the cadet program in October 2013, while still in the sixth grade. Fox hopes to join the United States Air Force, and then attend college.





**Above:** Cadet 2nd Lt. Lang receives his Mitchell Award from Lt. Col. Peters.

**Below:** Cadet 2nd Lt. Fox receives his new epaulets

It was a bittersweet meeting for Fox, since it was his last meeting at Los Alamos Composite Squadron. His family is moving to Rio Rancho, N.M., and he is transferring his membership to Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron.

The Mitchell Award signifies completion of Phase II of CAP's four-phase Cadet Program. To earn the award, cadets must successfully complete the first eight of 16 achievements in the Cadet Program, pass comprehensive leadership and aerospace exams, and also a rigorous physical fitness test.

Cadets who earn the Mitchell Award become eligible for advanced placement upon graduation from basic training and consideration for entry into the United States service academies, as well as CAP flight and academic scholarships and grants. 🇺🇸







**Top:** CAP provides both ground teams and aircrews to keep a watchful eye as boaters swarm the Colorado River near Lake Havasu City, Ariz. on summer weekends. (Photo: CAP Mission Aircrews)

## ***Arizona Wing Supports Precautionary SAR on Colorado River***

*by Maj. William “Scotty” Haskell, CAP, Arizona Wing*

LAKE HAVASU CITY, Ariz. – On May 27-29, 2017, CAP members from across the Arizona Wing were eyes in the skies and on the ground for a three-day precautionary Search and Rescue mission along the Colorado River during the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Seven CAP aircraft were involved in the mission, which aims to pinpoint boaters in distress or identify situations that could become a problem if allowed to escalate.

Based out of the Lake Havasu City Airport and a Mohave Sheriff’s Department joint operations center, the Arizona Wing Ground Team (including K-9s and their handlers) and flight crews worked with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure a safe holiday weekend for people celebrating on the river. It was also a chance to work with the new Domestic Operation Assessment & Awareness Response Tool, which is designed to provide simultaneous sharing of full-motion video, imagery and situational awareness information to Incident Management teams.

The Yuma squadron provided its aircraft and two flight crews for the mission, flying all three days. Aircraft and crews from Chandler, Deer Valley, Flagstaff, Glendale, Lake Havasu City, Mesa, Prescott, and Scottsdale squadrons also participated in the mission. In total, Arizona Wing flew 46 sorties for a total of 68 flight hours.

These missions are flown on every three-day weekend during the summer, providing the emergency services organizations on the Colorado River – including the U.S. Coast Guard and the Arizona State Parks and Trails – with aerial backup for the over 300 emergency calls received by the Mohave County Sheriff’s Department. The Yuma squadron has been providing an aircraft and crew for this mission since 2011. 🇺🇸





**Top:** Participants in glider orientation rides (L-R) Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Gavin Bodensab, Cadet Staff Sgt. Ray Hartman, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Luc Felando, Cadet Airman Levi Nielsen, Cadet Airman Wyatt Stark and 1st Lt. Victor Jones. All cadets are members of Broken Arrow Composite Squadron, except Felando who is a member of Starbase Composite Squadron. (All photos: 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP)

## ***Oklahoma Wing Cadets Enjoy Orientation Rides That Soar***

*by 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

PRYOR, Okla. – The early Civil Air Patrol Glider program was concentrated in the western part of the United States. The Soaring Society of America (SSA) partnered with Civil Air Patrol in early 1997 to promote soaring in the United States. In 2012, SSA initiated the CAP Cadet Introductory Membership that not only provides the cadets with a free SSA youth membership, but also a certificate commemorating their first glider flight. Today, the Civil Air Patrol Glider program is active in all regions across the nation.

Oklahoma's Glider program is less than a year old. Victor Jones of Council Oak Squadron in Tulsa is very active with scheduling glider orientation rides in northeastern Oklahoma. He has trained with Bill and Robin Rowden of Gordon Cooper Composite Squadron in Shawnee.





**Left:** Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Luc Felando is all smiles after his first glider orientation ride at Mid America Airport in Pryor, Okla.

**Below:** Cadets Bodenstab and Hartman ready the glider for towing.

“Civil Air Patrol’s glider program is an excellent way for cadets to experience stick and rudder flying,” said 2nd Lt. Justin Sexton of Council Oak Squadron. “This gives them a real feel for flying. I love the program.”

Cadet Chief Master

Sergeant Luc Felando of Starbase Composite Squadron received his first glider orientation ride on June 17 at Mid America Airport in Pryor, Oklahoma.

“Everything was quiet and exciting,” Cadet Felando said about his glider O-ride. “I like the glider O-ride better than the powered O-ride. My favorite part of flying the glider is the stall. It was a great feeling to lower the nose to increase air speed. The flight gave me a feeling of freedom.”

Several members of Council Oak Squadron assisted with orientation rides on June 17. Lt. Col. Jim Wroblewski handled communication and computer functions, 2nd Lt. Justin Sexton handled safety, 1st Lt. Victor Jones and 2nd Lt. Brenda Romero are the directors of the glider orientation flights at Pryor.

“Gliding is amazing,” Romero said. “It is serene and enchanting. I feel peace and a sense of wonder every time I am able to fly in the glider. If you try it, you will fall in love with it.”

A mechanical issue with the tow plane ended the orientation rides after only two cadets were able to fly. Council Oaks Squadron hosts the O-rides the third Saturday of each month. They usually sponsor cadets from Broken Arrow Composite Squadron, Grove Composite Squadron and Starbase Composite Squadron. Their hope is to include Kansas and Missouri squadrons in the upcoming months 🇺🇸







Southwest Region, July, 2017

**Left:** Cadet Lt. Col. Leo A. Cheshire holds his Spaatz Award Certificate, flanked by his parents Paul and Jacinda Cheshire. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Nicholas Lawrence, CAP, Texas Wing)

## ***Texas Wing Cadet Achieves Highest Civil Air Patrol Honor***

*by Maj. John Crary, CAP, Texas Wing*

PLANO, Texas – On June 25, 2017, Cadet Leo A. Cheshire was presented the Civil Air Patrol's General Carl A. Spaatz Award in a ceremony held at the City Hall in Frisco, Texas. Col. Stuart W. Maberry (US Air Force, Ret.) presented the award. Ms. Robin Vaughan, deputy district director for U.S. Congressman Michael C. Burgess, Texas 26th district, was the guest speaker. Ms. Vaughan delivered a congratulatory message from the congressman as well as his inspirational words for Cadet Cheshire's future.

Col. Maberry's Air Force career spanned more than 34 years during which he served at the Squadron, Wing, Group, Major Command, Air Staff, Joint-level,

and Executive Office of the President. Col. Maberry was medically retired on Oct. 13, 2009 after being wounded in Iraq when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device on April 28, 2007.

The General Carl A. Spaatz Award is the Civil Air Patrol's highest cadet honor. It is presented to cadets who have demonstrated excellence in leadership, character, fitness and aerospace education. Cadets qualify for this prestigious award after devoting an average of five years to progress through sixteen achievements in the CAP Cadet Program. Along the way they develop self-discipline, a strong sense of personal responsibility, the ability to lead and persuade, and the foundation necessary for pursuing a career in aviation, space, or technology. The final step that cadets must complete to earn the Spaatz Award is a rigorous four-part exam consisting of a challenging physical fitness test, an essay testing their moral reasoning, a comprehensive written exam on leadership, and aerospace education. Upon passing the Spaatz Award exams, the cadet is promoted to the grade of Cadet Colonel. Less than one percent of all CAP cadets have ever completed this award since its inception in 1964.

Cadet Cheshire joined the Civil Air Patrol in May of 2011 as a cadet in the Frisco Blackbird Composite Squadron, Frisco, Texas, where he progressed to the grade of Cadet Lt. Colonel. Following the closure of the Frisco Composite Squadron in 2014, he joined the Plano Mustangs Composite Squadron where he served as cadet commander from 2014-2016. During his six years of CAP participation Cadet Cheshire completed Airman Leadership School, Non-commissioned Officer Academy, Senior Non-commissioned Officer Academy, Officer Training School, and Cadet Command and Staff College. Additionally, he earned his basic emergency services qualification badge, community service ribbon, and Ground Team Member 3 qualification. During these years he also pursued his love of flying, soloing a glider at the Texas Wing Glider Flight Academy in 2013 and soloing a powered aircraft at the Texas Wing Powered Flight Academy in 2015. He earned his FAA private pilot certificate in 2016 and his FAA instrument rating in 2017.

In 2017, Cadet Cheshire won the Earle North Parker essay contest sponsored by the Air Force Association (AFA), Seidel Chapter. He then went on to win the award at AFA Texas level as well.

In 2016 Cadet Cheshire applied for and was accepted into the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs. 🇺🇸



**Top:** (L-R) Former Arkansas Wing Commander Colonel William Akins presents Civil Air Patrol Certificates of Appreciation to Lake Hamilton Junior High Principal J.J. Humphries, Assistant Librarian Monica Lingelback and Assistant Principal Bryan Cook at the School Library on Monday, May 22, 2017. (Staff Photo, Lake Hamilton Junior High)

## ***Arkansas Wing Squadron Recognizes Lake Hamilton Schools***

*by Col. William Akins, CAP, and Maj. Danny Marsh, CAP, Arkansas Wing*

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. – During three events on May 22 and 23, 2017, representatives from Hot Springs' "Flying Tiger" Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron acknowledged the outstanding contributions of Lake Hamilton School District administrators and educators for their support in CAP's Squadron's Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs and Recruiting activities. Former Arkansas Wing Commander Col. William Akins of Hot Springs presented Certificates of Appreciation on behalf of squadron commander Maj. Danny Marsh.

Recognized for their exemplary dedication to the quality of guidance and education to area students were Lake Hamilton High School Principal Frank Stapleton, Assistant Principal Shane Aitken, and Librarian Diane Hughes; and from Lake Hamilton Junior High, Principal J. J. Humphries, Assistant Principal Bryan Cook, Librarian Jill Heard, and Assistant Librarian Monica Lingelback. Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Program is designed for CAP members ages 12 to 20 who wish to develop their knowledge in aerospace, robotics, rocketry, search and rescue, communications and military protocols.

The Hot Springs squadron has a history of effective radio communications capability and participation in CyberPatriot, a program sponsored by the Air Force Association to educate the country's next generation of cyber defenders for the nation. CAP cadets contribute to our nation's security and infrastructure via this very competitive and highly technological program of training, ensuring that America is prepared to defend its national security from the air, land, sea, space and cyberspace.





**Above:** (L-R) Lake Hamilton High Assistant Principal Shane Aitkens, Librarian Diane Hughes and Principal Frank Stapleton receive Civil Air Patrol Certificates of Appreciation from former Arkansas Wing Commander Colonel William Akins at the School Library on May 22, 2017. (Staff Photo, Lake Hamilton High School)

Librarians Heard, Lingelback and Hughes helped to share the opportunities afforded by Civil Air Patrol by producing laminated posters to catch the eye of students charting their future in areas where CAP might be a good fit for them. Dedication to achievement can result in enhanced rank, should a CAP cadet choose to enlist in the military, and reaching the grade of Cadet Colonel is a virtually assured appointment to one of the service academies provided all acceptance criteria are met. 🇺🇸

**Right:** (L-R) Lake Hamilton Junior High Librarian Jill Heard, whose son is a Civil Air Patrol Cadet in Hot Springs, receives her Certificate of Appreciation from former Arkansas Wing Commander Col. William Akins on May 23, 2017, at the CAP Squadron Building on Memorial Field Airport. (Photo: Maj. Danny Marsh, CAP)





**Top:** Oklahoma State Senator Joe Newhouse and Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan. *(Photo: courtesy of Oklahoma State Senate)*

### ***Oklahoma Wing Cadet Serves as Page for Oklahoma State Senator***

*By 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

OKLAHOMA CITY – Civil Air Patrol Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan spent his Spring Break as a page for the State of Oklahoma Senate. Cadet LeVan applied to the Page Program to work with Senator Joe Newhouse, Broken Arrow.



**Right:** Cadet LeVan with Oklahoma State Senator Joe Newhouse.  
(Photos: courtesy of Oklahoma State Senate)

**Below:** Cadet LeVan participates in a mock Senate session.

Senate pages work side by side with senators and their staff members for four days. They learn the workings of introducing legislation to voting procedures of bills. Pages also witness how the entire Senate works together to pass or reject bills.

"I enjoy politics," LeVan said. "All citizens should know how their government works. Working as a page, I was able to sit on the Senate floor of the Oklahoma Capitol, witness how State Senators work to pass legislation or re-write it, and work with Senator Newhouse and his staff."

To qualify, a student must be a junior or senior in high school and be 16 years old. An application is submitted and, if chosen, the page spends Sunday evening through Thursday afternoon in Oklahoma City.

"I consider myself well-informed on the U.S. Constitution," Cadet LeVan said. "I actually carry a copy of the Constitution on me. I learned so much about State government with Senator Newhouse."

Pages hold a mock session on one evening while they are in Oklahoma City. They propose a bill, speak to endorse the bill or not to endorse. And then they all vote on the bill.

"Cadet Lt Col Kurt LeVan is an incredibly gifted cadet officer and leader who represented the Civil Air Patrol with honor and distinction as my page for the week," said Senator Joe Newhouse. "He served with conviction and attention to detail, and is welcome back to the Senate ANY time! I am excited to watch his bright and prosperous future; he is a national leader in the making."

Senator Newhouse is a long-time Broken Arrow, Okla. resident, is a U.S. Navy pilot who served in the Iraq War by flying combat missions in the EA-6B Prowler, has 186 carrier-trapped landings to his credit, and was awarded the Air Medal. After the war, Newhouse taught fighter tactics at the Navy Flight School in Pensacola, Fla.

Cadet LeVan is the current cadet commander at Broken Arrow Composite Squadron. He is a senior at Claremore High School and an Airman First Class with the Oklahoma Air National Guard. He plans to attend the University of Tulsa and major in Political Science. 🇺🇸





**Top:** (L-R) New Mexico Air National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen Andrew E. Salas, Cadet Airman Sean Cuellar-Hatcher, Mr. James Hatcher, and Air Force Association representatives Mr. James Toohey and Mr. Fred Harsany, who presented Cadet Hatcher with the CyberPatriot Middle School plaque on behalf of the squadron. (Photo: Cadet Sponsor Member Jonathan Fox, CAP.)

## ***New Mexico Squadron's Middle School Cyber Team Recognized***

*by Capt. Mary A. Fox, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M – On May 20, 2017, at an awards ceremony held at the Marriott Hotel in Albuquerque, the Air Force Association Chapter 258 recognized members of the Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron CyberPatriot Middle School team as the first-place middle school team.

New Mexico Air National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Andrew E. Salas congratulated all the cadets personally, and thanked them for their involvement and their efforts to keep CyberPatriot through the study of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) courses. He also challenged the winning team members to continue their efforts against terrorism, not only through training, but also by remembering the lives of all American soldiers who gave them the freedom to pursue their training.

"The ceremony was inspirational as well as informative," said Cadet Sponsor Member Jonathan Fox, in attendance with squadron commander Capt. Mary A. Fox. "It was great to hear Gen. Salas speak. He is certainly a motivational speaker. It is also interesting to hear that in only nine years, the AFA CyberPatriot program has grown to 60 teams in New Mexico, and 4,400 teams nationally. Those are quite impressive numbers for such a critical need in our country."

Team member Cadet Airman Sean Cuellar-Hatcher received the award on the team's behalf, as well as a challenge coin from an Air Force Association representative who attended the ceremony.

The middle school team consisted of team directors 2nd Lts. Tom and Carissa Nichols, mentor James Hatcher, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. John Nichols, Cadet Airman Sean Cuellar-Hatcher, Cadet Airman Basic Maxwell Wignall, and Naval Sea Cadet Jasmine Nichols. 🇺🇸





**Top:** Astronauts Mark Kelly, left, and brother Scott Kelly flank Cadet 1st Lt. Hannah Cheatham, chair of the Arkansas Wing Cadet Advisory Council, and her father Cadet Sponsor Darrell Cheatham at the Distinguished Lecture Series event at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark. (Photos: Courtesy of Mr. Whit Pruitt)

## ***Arkansas Squadrons Meet Astronauts Mark and Scott Kelly***

*by Cadet Sr. Airman Abigail Johnson, CAP, Arkansas Wing*

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – On April 12, 2017, cadets and senior members from Fort Smith, Rogers and Little Rock gathered at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, to hear retired Navy Captains Mark and Scott Kelly speak of their life as two of America's best-known astronauts. An event affiliated with the 2017 Student Activities Distinguished Lecture Series, CAP members were given VIP treatment and backstage passes to meet the astronauts and take photos.

The Kellys, born on Feb. 21, 1964, in West Orange, N.J, are identical twins who grew up taking separate paths to a common destination. Mark joined the Navy, while Scott went to college with plans to become a physician. After his first year, Scott decided to pursue his interest in flying and switched to the Navy, putting him a year behind Mark. Both became Navy fighter and test pilots before joining NASA's space shuttle program in 1996. Both flew missions on shuttles and spent time on orbit in the International Space Station (ISS). Best known, the two participated in a year-long mission to study the health effects of long-term spaceflight as Scott spent 340 days in space while Mark remained on the ground.

Capt. Scott Kelly, received an ROTC commission in 1987, became a naval aviator in 1989 flying F-14 Tomcats from the carrier USS Eisenhower, and earned a Master of Science degree in 1996. As an astronaut, he served as pilot, then commander for two shuttle missions, and also commander for three missions aboard the ISS. He gained acclaim from the science community when he retired from the Navy in 2012, and NASA in 2016, ending his career with a record accumulated time in space by an American astronaut of 382 days.

Capt. Mark Kelly became a naval aviator in 1987 and earned a Master of Science degree in 1994. In Operation Desert Storm, he completed 39 combat missions as a Navy A6E Intruder pilot flying from the USS Midway. For NASA, Kelly served as pilot on two shuttle flights followed by

commander aboard two more. He retired from NASA with 54 days in space to his credit. Simultaneously retiring from the Navy on Oct. 1, 2011, he returned home to be with his wife, U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, after she was targeted in an assassination attempt on Jan. 8 of that year.

"Originally, I was six minutes older than Mark. We did the math, and after 520 days at 17,500 mph, I am now 6 minutes and 5 milliseconds older," said Scott, bringing Einstein's theory of special relativity into the discussion. His brother Mark commented, "In 10 years, if I look like I'm 60 and he looks 80, you'll know what happened." "Botox," quipped Scott.

The distinguished achievements and remarkable careers of the Kelly brothers might be attributed to natural talent. However, Mark Kelly dispelled that notion with a few words of advice. "I struggled throughout high school and I struggled in the Navy. After a few of my first carrier landings, my instructor asked me if I was sure that this career was for me. I am a prime example of someone who overcame a lack of aptitude and numerous challenges in order to ultimately achieve my goals. How good you are in the beginning does not determine how great you can become."

"Success is achieved by setting a lofty goal and taking small, manageable steps in order to attain it," said Scott Kelly. "Don't be satisfied with the status quo. If you're not always trying to make things better, things will always get worse. The best part of coming home from my year in space was the realization that I had just done the hardest thing I would ever do in my life."

"It was a great opportunity to hear of practical applications within NASA of studies conducted aboard the space station," said 2nd Lt. Bradley Burgin of Fort Smith, who attended with his son Cadet Airman Noah Burgin. The latter, soon to attend Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala., paid close attention to the Kelly presentation. Continuing, 2nd Lt. Burgin said, "We thoroughly enjoyed seeing the Kellys speak of their journey through such stories, wit and charm."

Cadet 1st Lt. Hannah Cheatham, chairperson of the Arkansas Wing Cadet Advisory Council, attended with her father, Cadet Sponsor Darrell Cheatham. Said Cadet Cheatham, "The Kelly brothers gave me a unique perspective on how to approach challenges, and how important it is to not give up on my aspirations"

Asked about his initial rocket launch up to the International Space Station, Scott Kelly answered, "As soon as I realized I wasn't going to die, it was the most fun I've had in my life." On a more serious note, he added, "When I saw the great blue planet suspended below me, I knew I would never see something as beautiful as Earth." 🌍

**Right:** (L-R)  
Astronauts Mark  
Kelly, 2nd Lt.  
Bradley Burgin,  
son Cadet Amn.  
Noah Burgin, and  
Astronaut Scott  
Kelly at the post-  
lecture meet-and-  
greet in  
Fayetteville, Ark.







2017

**Left:** Capt. David McBlair accepts command of Council Oak Squadron from Oklahoma Wing Commander Col. Dale Newell (left). Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan is the guidon bearer. (Photos: 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP)

**Below:** Oklahoma Wing Commander Col. Dale Newell, Cadet Lt. Col. Kurt LeVan, Capt. David McBlair and Maj. Bill Vickers at Council Oak Squadron Change of Command ceremony.

### **Oklahoma Wing's Only Senior Squadron Has Change of Command**

*by 1st Lt. Kathy Sexton, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

TULSA, Okla. – On May 9, 2017, new command at Oklahoma's only senior squadron occurred at Sparks Aviation in Tulsa. Council Oak Senior Squadron had been under the direction of Maj. Bill Vickers for two years. Maj. Vickers is still a member of Council Oak but has turned the command over to Capt. David McBlair, a long-time Civil Air Patrol member who started as a cadet at Enid Composite Squadron. He has been active with all Tulsa area squadrons for several years.



"I am excited to see Capt. McBlair direct the growth of the squadron," Maj. Vickers said. "Command is a commitment. There is a time to step up and a time to step down. Service is a revolving door. I feel we accomplished a lot during my command. I tried to lead by the saying. 'People don't care what you know. They need to know you care.' David has a plan, and I know he can establish the team and accomplish great things."

Oklahoma Wing Commander Dale Newell presided over the Change of Command. Oklahoma Wing Vice Commander David Roberts and Group 3 Commander Jim Harig were also on hand to witness Capt. McBlair accepting command.

McBlair is a First Officer with Omni Air International in Tulsa, and brings several years of aviation experience to Council Oak squadron. He is a CFII who teaches aviation in his spare time. He is also a Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma Air National Guard veteran.

On the first night of his new command, Capt. McBlair recruited a new member: Melissa McBlair, Capt. McBlair's wife is new to Civil Air Patrol. "My first good decision as a Commander was to ask my wife to join the unit. Not only is she my best friend but she's an awesome organizer, so score one for me," he said.

The McBlair family attends as many air shows as they can. All are aviation enthusiasts. Their youngest sons enjoy being around planes and Melissa looks forward to when they are old enough to join Civil Air Patrol. Their eldest son, who is an Airman First Class in the U.S. Air Force, is stationed at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

"Initially, my focus for the squadron will be a return to the basics. It's good for all members to have a full understanding of concepts like Specialty Tracks, navigating eServices, and Professional Development, among other things. Once that is complete, Council Oak will concentrate on emergency services training," he said. "Council Oak members have a vast amount of knowledge and experience, and I will be using that experience to increase our effectiveness as a unit. But a successful squadron isn't just about training and effectiveness, the good ones have fun, too. Luckily, Council Oak is made up of some really good people that I enjoy serving with."

Council Oak Squadron has 53 members, though not all are pilots. Most enjoy flying, but all have the desire to give back to their community. Capt. McBlair spent ten days in June at SWR Powered Flight Academy in Shawnee, Oklahoma, teaching the next generation of pilots to fly. At Council Oak, community service is a legacy that starts at the top. 🇺🇸

**Below:** Lt. Col. Jodie Gilbert, Capt. David McBlair and Capt. Charles Ewers at Pilot Clinic in Tulsa.







**Top:** Cadets from Santa Fe Composite Squadron participate in a simulated litter carry of an aircraft crash victim during a squadron search and rescue exercise. (Photo: Capt. C. John Graham, CAP)

## ***New Mexico Wing Cadets Learn the Basics of Ground Team Operations***

*by Cadet Capt. Dakota Cisneros, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

SANTA FE, N.M. – On June 20, 2017, a field training exercise held at the Santa Fe Municipal Airport provided a valuable learning experience for the cadets of Santa Fe Composite Squadron,

During the exercise, cadets located and successfully evacuated a simulated victim of an aircraft accident, learning the basics of ground search team movements, whistle commands, proper field protection, the importance of the wingman system, and how to conduct an improvised litter carry to transport a conscious injured person.

The cadets used a geo-referenced map to navigate to a simulated crash site at the airport, as well as handheld radios to communicate with a simulated command base.

Squadron Public Affairs Officer Capt. John Graham said, “The squadron hadn’t been involved in ground team exercises in many years. With his exemplary leadership skills, Cadet Cisneros made it possible for the cadets to learn these new skills.”

Squadron officers participating in the exercise assisted with instruction, acted as incident commander and staff, and answered questions about real-life scenarios. A number of cadets expressed interest in further emergency services training so they could gain experience in the field and pursue personal goals for their future careers. 🇺🇸

**Editor’s Note:** The squadron’s cadet public affairs officer, Cadet Capt. Dakota Cisneros, completed one of the requirements for his promotion to cadet major by planning and leading a ground search and rescue mission for the cadets in the squadron. In planning the exercise, Cadet Cisneros prepared a detailed Operational Risk Management analysis, and a geo-referenced map to navigate to a simulated crash site at the airport.



**Top:** Texarkana area Girl Scouts explore a CAP Cessna 182 aircraft. (Photos: 95th Squadron Public Affairs Staff)

**Below:** Cadet Airman Nikki McIntyre assists Girl Scouts in the "Lost at Sea" activity.

## Arkansas Wing Squadron Hosts Third Annual "Women in Aviation" Seminar

by Senior Member Jonathan McIntyre, CAP, Arkansas Wing

TEXARKANA, Ark. – On June 9, 2017, Texarkana's 95th Composite Squadron hosted their third annual "Women in Aviation" seminar for area Girl Scouts. In partnership with Southern Arkansas University's (SAU) Aviation Maintenance School, Texarkana Campus, female Civil Air Patrol cadets, CAP senior members, event sponsors and SAU instructors provided a comprehensive introduction to aerospace, aviation, rocketry and aviation careers.

The event opened with a posting of the Colors by an all-female CAP cadet color guard. Flag bearers Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Alexis Sims, Cadet Airmen Rayne Hogan and Zoe McIntyre, accompanied by riflemen Cadet Master Sgt. Hope Williams and Cadet Airman First Class Nikki McIntyre, set the stage for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Girl Scouts reciting the Girl Scout Promise and cadets affirming the CAP Cadet Oath. Cadets Sims and Williams then delivered the day's agenda of activities.

The Girl Scouts were led in the "Lost at Sea" activity, in which each had to select from a list of items what would be important to have in order to survive if lost at sea. Then came rocketry,

where each girl built an air rocket launched from a straw, and then a larger air rocket propelled from a launcher on the outdoor tarmac. CAP cadets assisted the Scouts in building their rockets as Texarkana Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Loren Ainsworth aided in safely launching them using compressed air.

Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Sims and Cadet Staff Sgt. Cecily Mobley gave presentations highlighting aviation and CAP. Sims spoke of women in aviation and their vital roles in the progression of aeronautics throughout history to the present day.







**Left:** Texarkana Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Loren Ainsworth gives Girl Scouts a tour of a CAP Cessna 182 "glass cockpit" aircraft.

**Below:** Texarkana Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Loren Ainsworth assists a Texarkana area Girl Scout with her compressed-air-powered rocket.

Sims shared a vision of how women will play significant roles in the future. Mobley briefed the Scouts on Civil Air Patrol's missions of Emergency Services, Aerospace Education and – with special emphasis – Cadet

Programs. She spoke of opportunities and training available to cadets in Search and Rescue ground and air crews, leadership, cadet orientation flights, and military customs and courtesies.

SAU Aviation Maintenance instructors Kathrine Beckham and Aaron Flowers spoke of the curriculum at SAU Tech and the value of higher education. Ms. Beckham, a former helicopter mechanic, shared memories of her service repairing OH-58B Kiowa helicopters in the United States Army and her experience as an SAU instructor. She is a returning guest with "Women in Aviation," having spoken every year since its inception. Mr. Flowers spoke about the maintenance program at SAU Tech, describing operation and support of different aircraft systems. "I was pleased to see so many come to the event and show their interest in aviation," he shared afterwards.

The 95th "Raptor" Composite Squadron's aerospace education officer, Lt. Col. Martin Kempa, emphasized CAP's Aerospace Education program, showing rockets, model airplanes, a robotic arm and Mars displays as key tools for training. His mini hovercraft proved to be one of the most popular events of the day, as Girl Scouts were sent gliding across the hangar floor on a layer of air. Kempa's hovercraft had been featured at the Arkansas Wing's Aerospace Education Conference last May.

Scouts were given tours of the 95th's Cessna 182 "glass cockpit" aircraft, sitting in the pilot's seat and receiving an overview of how aircrew members interact in the airplane, including explanations of basic instrumentation, radios and flight controls. Parents, scouts and group leaders were then taken to the Texarkana Regional Airport control tower for a tour of air traffic control. They watched as ATC handled a variety of aircraft taking off and landing at the airport, hearing first-hand how pilots and controllers communicate with each other.

A vision of CAP member 1st Lt. Angie Nickerson and Cadet Sponsor Member Geogiaberry Mobley, the goal of the "Women in Aviation" series is to instill awareness in the growing minds of area youth so that they might consider the opportunities available to females in aviation and aerospace, inspiring them to seek careers through use of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), and also to present Civil Air Patrol as a viable conduit to success in achieving these goals. 🇺🇸





**Top:** Cadet Airman 1st Class Samuel L. Anderson fills a collection bin as part of the squadron's fundraiser. (Photo: Capt. Mary Fox, CAP)

## ***New Mexico Wing Conducts Squadron Fundraiser***

*by 2nd Lt. Michael R. Saul, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On April 20, 2017, the cadets and senior members of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite squadron held a fundraiser at the squadron's meeting place, the Albuquerque Heights First Church of the Nazarene.

The fundraiser consisted of gently used items that squadron members and others donated to Goodwill. The squadron was able to raise \$50 for each bin filled. At the end of the day, the squadron was able to fill 6 bins, for a total of \$300 raised for the squadron.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to purchase cadet uniforms, insignia and supplies for the squadron. 🇺🇸





**Top:** Lt. Cols. Greg and Sharon Gempler (left) and Major Charles Rine (right) flank honoree Lt. Col. Alfred "Max" Gore on the occasion of being awarded the FAA's prestigious Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, in recognition of 50 years of safe aviating. (Photo: Capt Brad Kidder, CAP)

## ***Arkansas Wing Member Receives 50-Yr Wright Bros. Award from FAA***

*by Capt Brad Kidder, CAP, Arkansas Wing*

ROGERS, Ark. – On April 11, 2017, government officials and dignitaries from across the state met at northwest Arkansas' 115th Composite Squadron to celebrate the lifetime achievement of Lt. Col. Alfred "Max" Gore, CAP, as he was presented the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award for 50 years of safe flying.

The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award is the most prestigious recognition that the FAA issues to pilots certified under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 61. This award is named after the Wright Brothers, the first US pilots, to recognize as "Master Pilots" individuals who have exhibited professionalism, skill, and aviation expertise for at least 50 years while piloting aircraft. Eligibility requires nominees to hold a pilot certificate, have 50 or more years of civil and/or military flying experience, be a US citizen, and never have had a revocation of any airman certificate.

Gore joined the Civil Air Patrol on March 3, 1999, serving the Air Force Auxiliary in continuous service as CFI, CFII, mission pilot, and mission check pilot. He is a retired Navy Captain, with an exemplary career as a Naval Aviator in both the active duty and reserve components.

Gore joined the Navy at NAS Dallas in May, 1958, immediately after graduating from Abilene Christian College. He entered the flight training program that September, soloed a T-34 Mentor on April 7, 1959, and was designated a Naval Aviator on May 13, 1960. During his Navy career, He flew the T-34 Mentor, T-28 Trojan, F9F Panther and Cougar, F11 Tiger, F3D Skyknight, F3H Demon, and the F4 Phantom aircraft, amassing 3,364 flight hours and 468 carrier landings. He was released from active duty on April 1, 1967, after which he piloted the F8 Crusader and F4 Phantom in the Navy Reserve. He transferred to Retired Reserve status on July 1, 1984.

In the civilian sector, Gore accumulated 11,762 flight hours as engineer, first officer and captain for Braniff International Airways, flying the Douglas DC-8 and Boeing 720, 707, and 737 airframes. After Braniff, he gained another 5,912 hours as chief pilot and director of flight operations for the Saudi Arabian American Oil Company, flying the DHC-6 Twin Otter, Fairchild F-27 Friendship, Boeing 737 and Gulfstream II, III and IV. Here he received a commercial rotorcraft/instrument rating, flying some 500 hours in the Bell 206 and 212 helicopters. He retired on Feb. 28, 1996.

Heather Metzler, FAA Safety Team Program Manager for the Little Rock Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), was approached by Gore's fellow CAP members Lt. Col. Greg Gempler, Lt. Col. Sharon Gempler, and Major Charles Rine. Metzler, herself a CAP pilot, vetted the request and collectively they gathered records and photographs from Gore's lengthy history in aviation. Lt. Col. Alfred "Max" Gore joins the esteemed company of Arkansas Wing pilots Lt. Col. Joel Buckner and Capt. Charlie Bell on the FAA's Roll of Honor as a recipient of the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award.

"I joined Civil Air Patrol after the military, because I thought this was something I could do, because I wanted to repay what they did for me in the Navy, and also continue to serve my country. I go to Falcon Virgo every year, and that's a fulfilling job," said Gore. He encourages and advises, "Get involved. Learn to delegate. Let them run, and give them guidance. Pick out the senior members who get involved, and foster their interest to make the operation run smoother."

Lt. Col. Gore at age 81 sees no end in sight for his flying career and says, "Longevity runs in my family, and I plan to be here for a long, long time – and will continue to fly as long as I can." 🇺🇸

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**Right:** Navy Lt. JG Alfred "Max" Gore in an F3H Demon at Cecil Field, Fla. (Photo; unknown Navy photographer)

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## On Language

### About Indo-European Language Roots

AUSTIN, Texas – Indo-European languages are built on a common foundation, using basically the same principles. The earliest and simplest words tend to be monosyllables that, as a rule, are easy to pronounce. Upon these, by using prefixes and suffixes, more complicated words were created to further define (or depart from) the original meaning. The Latin language synthesized modal expressions through suffixes and called this "declension," simultaneously achieving clarity and brevity.

This is how it worked. The Latin *Dominus tecum* (two words and five syllables) translates into English as *The Lord be with you* (also five syllables but now we have five words). However, in the process, we've lost track of who "you" is. In Latin, it is the third person singular, so it describes a one-on-one relationship. However, the English *you* is ambiguous in number, as it could be either singular or plural. Today, since it is rarely spoken outside religious circles, Latin has lost users but not relevance. And, since Latin and Classical Greek lie at the bottom of all Indo-European languages, the study of English would not be complete without some knowledge of both, but ideally good knowledge of at least one of them.

Let's take, for example, the prefix *bi-*. Taken from the Latin, it means *two*. On the surface this looks simple enough, but it really isn't, mostly because usage is eroding its clear original meaning. Retaining its primary sense, we have many words in common use. Here are some of them paired with their literal meaning in parentheses: bicycle (two wheels), bilateral ([of] two sides), bivalve (two valves – as an oyster), bicameral ([composed of] two chambers), biped (two-foot[ed]), bifocal ([of] two focuses), biconvex ([double] curved outwards), bilingual ([pertaining to] two languages), bipartite ([of] two parties or sides), and many others.

However, others that started out well enough got derailed along the way. Take, for instance, *bimonthly*. In 1845, when it was coined (some say 1846, but that is not the point), it meant *every two months*, with a perfectly good counterpart that used a different prefix, *semimonthly*, to denote twice monthly. However, enough people have used *bimonthly* when they actually meant *semimonthly* that *bimonthly* is now being used in both senses (and tolerated by most authoritative sources). One of these sources is the Merriam-Webster Dictionary (MWD) that defines it as both "every two months" and "twice a month." The reader or listener is supposed to figure out which is meant by the context in which it is used. However, current usage does not clearly and accurately explain *bimonthly publication*.

A case in point is a publication that posted a notice to the purpose that it was a *bimonthly*, but then specified the dates as the 1st and 15th of every month. I was certain that a great error had been committed, so I went to the MWD. Reality check: (1) *Every other month*; (2) *Twice a month*. Dismayed, I rushed to my trusty etymological dictionary, and... "every two months" greeted me reassuringly. Hmmm. With the score tied, I knew what I had to do, so casting all caution to the wind, I took the plunge. On page 33 of my 2013 edition of the *AP Stylebook*, there it was: "*Bimonthly* = every other month. *Semimonthly* = twice a month." That gave me a good feeling, as sanity returned to my literary life. But would the public at large understand what I mean?

But, what's good for the month isn't good for the year. My *alma mater's* magazine, published by the State University of New York at New Paltz, specifies that it is a *biannual publication* on its credits inset. The *AP Stylebook* confirms this and notes that it is a synonym for *semiannual*; but probably as a concession to purists it also gives *biennial* as the word of choice for *every two years*. Unhappily, a triumph of usage over logic, and the loss of meaning.

Is this unique? Not at all. It turns out that *lead-footed* was coined in 1896 with the meaning of *slow*. However, in the 1940s, it suddenly flip-flopped into meaning *fast*, thanks to the vehicular use habits of some drivers and truckers of the day.

Then there are poorly understood expressions that some people misuse in their effort to appear to be what they are not (fooling no one in the process). One of them is *moot point*. In the mid-12th century, the word *moot* (some consider it obsolete) meant a meeting (especially of free

men). By the 1530s, law students would gather and debate a *moot case* in order to practice their arguing skills. From this practice arose the meaning of *debatable* being applied to *moot*. Hence, *moot point*. Pity the ignoramus who interjects a self-coined *mute point* in a flurry of baseless and ill-chosen arguments. (Some years ago, as the president of our homeowners' association, I had to listen politely to an irate and pompous neighbor who kept stressing her *mute point*. No one objected. Of course, neither did I; yet I wondered how many of the others really chose to remain silent out of courtesy.)

Common victims to ignorance are well-known Latin expressions. *In memorium* is used in the sense of "in the memory of" when the correct Latin expression is *in memoriam*. "Well," you might say, "Just a little vowel, how much difference could that make? *Memorium*, *memoriam*, they sound the same to me." The enterprising student lacking Latin skills might go to that great ever-present and free source, the Internet, and Google *memorium* to see if it is acceptable. Go ahead. You try it. How many hits did you get? When I did this, months ago, I simply stopped counting... Here is the real explanation. Since the nominative of memory is *memoria*, its dative is *memoriam*. No way out of it. (To complicate matters and aggravate the error, the Latin word *memorium* does exist, but it's an adjective meaning mindful or grateful.)

So, I decided to do it again. Following my own advice, I noticed that when I started typing *memorium* on the Google search line, the listings on the drop-down picker were headed by *memoriam*. That's wonderful news, and I'm delighted that the *hoi polloi* might take a hint and learn something. Another one is *gloriam* (the correct one) and *glorium* (incorrect). Google, too, will serve *gloriam* as the first choice on the drop-down list should anyone start keying *glorium* – either in earnest or by mistake. (And yes, there is a *glorium* in Latin also, but it means ambition, vainglory, boasting.)

So, going back to Indo-European roots, given to us as the proto-language of the people who had migrated from Africa into the Indus Valley, and then decided to take another leap and went North to populate Europe. But an equal or larger number went East and populated Asia, where Indo-Asian roots rule. Establishing these origins has been a scholarly and intellectual task that involved the most learned and polyglotal scholars of the world. By taking contemporary words and tracing their origins through written records, a task made possible by the existence and use of writing in the European Near- and Middle-East, a nucleus or kernel portion of the contemporary word became apparent and found its counterpart in older languages.

Beyond the possibility of actual word-tracing through existing records, linguists theorized a hypothetical common origin, and that is what today we call the *reconstructed* Proto-Indo-European language. The building blocks of this reconstructed language shed light on word-formation across languages.

Take, for instance, the English word *independence*. The root word here is *pend-* meaning "hang" or "to hang." The first step is to affix the prefix *de-* that results in *depend* (meaning to hinge). Next comes the affixing of the suffix *-ence* (used to turn the word into a noun), and this gave us *dependence* (the condition of being a deciding factor, the opposite of being free). And finally, we negate it all by affixing the prefix *in-* to form our original *independence*. All of this comes directly from the Latin *independentia*.

Let's see how this system functions in the case of the German equivalent *Unabhängigkeit*. Sounds inscrutable, right? Well, it isn't. (Note: In German, all nouns are capitalized.) The root word is *Hang-* that yields the verb *hängen*. The first prefix is *ab-* resulting in *abhängen* (to depend). Then replacing the verbal suffix *-en* with the suffix *-ig* to yield the adjective *abhängig* (dependent). Then the suffix *-keit* is added in order to form the noun *Abhängigkeit* (dependence). And finally the negative prefix *un-* to come up with *Unabhängigkeit* (independence).

The roots are different, but the principles are the same.

There is much, much more to this, but not enough space here. 🍷

**Lt. Col. Arthur E. Woodgate, CAP**  
SWR Director of Public Affairs



## The Safety Corner

### The Dangers of Slips, Trips and Falls

Falls are the third leading cause of unintentional death in the U.S., accounting for nearly 32,000 deaths in 2014, according to Injury Facts 2016®. The risk of falling rises with age.

In homes and communities, more than 31,000 people died in a fall in 2014. In the workplace, nearly 600 people died and 47,000 were injured in 2013. NSC fall prevention training for the workplace can help prevent injuries and deaths.

#### Fall prevention tips

- Clean up all spills immediately
- Stay off freshly mopped floors
- Secure electrical and phone cords out of traffic areas
- Remove small throw rugs or use nonskid mats to keep them from slipping.
- Keep frequently used items in easily reachable areas.
- Wear shoes with good support and slip-resistant soles.
- Arrange furniture to provide open walking and pathways
- Keep drawers and cabinet doors closed at all times
- Install handrails on all staircases on both sides
- Remove tripping hazards (paper, boxes, books, clothes, toys, shoes) from stairs and walkways
- If you have young children, install gates at the top and bottom of stairs (unlatch the gate in order to pass – don't climb over them)
- Ensure adequate lighting both indoors and outdoors
- Remove debris from exterior walkways
- Adjust gutter downspouts to drive water away from pathways
- Periodically check the condition of walkways and steps, and repair damages immediately
- Never stand on a chair, table or other surface on wheels.

#### Ladder safety

- Always keep at least three points of contact with the ladder (two hands and one foot or two feet and one hand)
- Place the base on a firm, solid surface
- A straight or extension ladder should be placed 1 foot away from the surface it rests against for every 4 feet of ladder height
- When you climb, always face the ladder and grip the rungs, not the side rails
- Climb down a ladder one rung at a time
- Do not climb with tools in hand – use a tool belt
- Keep your body between the ladder side rails when climbing
- Do not lean or overreach – reposition the ladder closer to the work instead
- Tie down a ladder when using it outdoors and do not use it in windy or inclement weather

#### Common locations for falls

- |                      |                                    |                          |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Doorways           | • Areas with heavy traffic         | • Unstable work surfaces |
| • Ramps              | • Uneven surfaces                  | • Ladders                |
| • Cluttered hallways | • Areas prone to wetness or spills | • Stairs                 |
|                      | • Unguarded heights                |                          |

(Source: National Safety Council)

(Go to the next page for the Quiz)

## Slips, Trips, and Falls – Quiz

1. Keeping walkways, aisles, and stairs clear helps prevent slips, trips, and falls.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. If you're cleaning up or repairing a floor area, you should:
  - a. Do it quickly
  - b. Mark and block off the area
  - c. Assume others will notice the problem
3. When you're carrying a load up or down stairs, you should:
  - a. Be sure you can see over it
  - b. Carry as much as possible so you only need to make one trip
  - c. Carry a flashlight
4. When you have to reach a high place, you should stand on:
  - a. A chair
  - b. Boxes
  - c. A ladder
5. Shoes that will help prevent slips, trips, and falls have:
  - a. Flat heels and nonskid soles.
  - b. Steel toes
  - c. Lightweight uppers
6. When you walk across a slippery surface, it's best to:
  - a. Move as quickly and directly as possible.
  - b. Move slowly, sliding your feet.
  - c. Move slowly, lifting your feet
7. To get the best balance, you should walk with your hands:
  - a. At your sides
  - b. In your pockets
  - c. Straight out in front of you
8. When you climb a ladder, you should:
  - a. Have your back to it
  - b. Face it and hold onto the rails
  - c. Wear heavy boots
9. You're always safe from falls when you're sitting on a chair.
  - a. True
  - b. False
10. To reduce the chances of serious injury when you fall, roll with the fall or:
  - a. Put your arms out
  - b. Close your eyes
  - c. Bend your elbows and knees

***Lt. Col. John Kruger, CAP***  
*SWR Director of Safety*



## ***How the Southwest Region Public Affairs Awards Program Works***

Starting with the July, 2015 issue of The Fly-By, Southwest Region Commander Col. Mark Smith has decided to continue the January, 2013 directive of then Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank A. Buethe in that region will recognize contributions to The Fly-By as follows:

1. A SWR **CAP Achievement Award** for article publication on three different issues of The Fly-By. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.
2. A SWR **Commander's Commendation Award** for article publication on an additional six different issues. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.

Region will issue the certificate and send it to the winner's unit at the first available opportunity. The award certificate will be presented at the first available opportunity.

### ***How to Make Submissions Suitable for Publication***

Since The Fly-By is posted on the SWR website, it is an external communication. Therefore, as required by CAPR 190-1, Sec. 7.b.(7), articles must be written in Associated Press Style. If a submission that is not in AP Style is selected for publication, it will be edited to this standard. (NHQ/PA has been using AP Style for all external communications since 2005.)

AP Style is defined in the Associated Press Stylebook (available at [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org)). For a brief summary, please see "Associated Press Style in a Nutshell," overleaf.

"Article" is defined as a narrative that:

- Is written in AP Style;
- Answers the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and preferably also How;
- Has one or more quotes from participants, with attribution;
- Has two or more digital photos attached (not embedded in the text), with appropriate cutlines (photo captions). An article submitted without digital photos that is selected for publication will count as a half-credit. For full credit, it must have accompanying photos.

### ***General advice on writing a good article***

- **Get all the facts right**, stick to the facts, and do not use hearsay or express opinion.
- **Take good digital photos.**
  - Do not use digital zoom, or else your photos will lack good focus and definition;
  - Take "action shots" of people doing something interesting that is material to the article; for each photo, identify the people on it by grade, name, and unit.
  - Make sure everyone is in the correct uniform and you identify all, as per above.
  - **Note:** Good photos are essential to add immediacy and flavor to the story.
- **Get good quotes.**
  - Ask participants for their opinion;
  - Get full grade, name, position title and unit of assignment for each quote.
  - Get the individual's consent to publish the quote as recorded (read it back).
  - **Note:** Getting quotes is how you get to express opinion, and get your readers to share the experience that you are writing about.
- **Write in good, idiomatic, unadorned English.**
  - Do not "pad" your sentences, such as saying "due to the fact that" when "because" will do;
  - Avoid trite expressions, such as "it goes without saying" – if it does, don't say it;
  - Avoid colloquial expressions;
  - Do not write in acronyms – always define the first instance, such as "Federal Aviation Administration" before you use FAA;
  - No nicknames – unless famous, such as "Ike" for Pres. Dwight E. Eisenhower. 🇺🇸

## ***Associated Press Style in a Nutshell***

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion.
- To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person's permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person's grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as "kid."
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use "kid," "boy," "girl" or "child" but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use "their" for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, "the cadet took their meal."
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or higher ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. The Navy is the only service that has the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the good rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- **For best results**, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org) – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖